

# Go Back. Move Forward.

## Arkansas Education Resource Guide for Adults

<http://dwe.arkansas.gov/gobackmoveforward/>





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## FOREWORD

A better education is necessary to earn better wages. Today's jobs require more skills than ever before, and many of those jobs require a college degree.

When adults think about going back to school, they're faced with roadblocks. They might have a job and can't get off work. They might have to take care of their kids. And they never seem to have enough money.

This booklet will help. It contains the resources adults need to advance at many levels – whether they need to learn to read, learn English or obtain a college degree. It also contains success stories that are sure to inspire.

The title says it all: Sometimes we have to go back to move forward. If you need practical advice and encouragement, this publication is an excellent resource guide for planning your future.

Gov. Mike Huckabee



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book is a collaborative effort of the following agencies:

- Arkansas Governor's Office
- Arkansas Department of Economic Development
- Arkansas Department of Higher Education
- Arkansas Department of Human Services
- Arkansas Department of Workforce Education
- Department of Workforce Services
- Arkansas Rehabilitation Services
- Arkansas Science and Technology Authority
- Arkansas Workforce Investment Board
- Arkansas Literacy Council
- Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges
- Southern Good Faith Fund

Arkansas is one of 10 states that participated in the Pathways to Advancement project of the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices. This project develops strategies and policies to help working adults complete postsecondary education credentials.

*Go Back. Move Forward.* is designed to help adults continue their education – no matter where they left off.





## PREFACE

It doesn't matter where you are on the education path. Going back will help you move forward.

If you don't have your high school diploma yet, getting a GED could be worth about \$8,000 a year. Over a lifetime of work, that high school diploma could be worth more than \$300,000. Think about these numbers:

- On average, people without a high school diploma make less than \$19,000 a year. That adds up to about \$900,000 over a lifetime on the job.
- The average yearly earnings for people with a high school diploma is \$27,000 – or about \$1.2 million for a lifetime of work.

So if a high school diploma is worth \$8,000 a year, what's a college degree worth?

- The average salary for someone with a two-year associate's degree is more than \$36,000 – or \$1.6 million over a lifetime.
- A person with a four-year bachelor's degree averages more than \$50,000 a year – or \$2.1 million over a lifetime.
- And college grads with advanced degrees average nearly \$73,000 a year – or more than \$2.8 million over a lifetime.

### The American Dream

Getting more education isn't just about more money. It's also about more opportunity. In 1950, a high school graduate had enough education to qualify for more than half of all the jobs available in the country. But today, only 15 percent of jobs require just a high school education.

Education is the key to getting the American dream. This booklet was designed to help you unlock that dream.

This book is filled with success stories of people just like you who went back to school so they could move forward. They all had reasons for dropping out of high school, not continuing with college, not taking the next step. But they all turned their lives around when they made that commitment to themselves and to their family to go back to school. Many of them had to start with the basics. Some had to overcome disabilities. But they all made it. You can too.

Think you're too old? Elroy Chinn began learning to read at the age of 84. Lela Robertson passed her GED Test when she was 72. Belvia Wilkins, a great-grandmother, went to college after her husband died. She got a degree in psychology and social work, graduating with highest honors.



You have a family to support? So did 46-year-old Jackie Galbreath. That's why he got his GED and completed a one-year course in industrial electricity. As a single parent, Kathy Davis found that going back to college was the best way to provide for her family.

You have a disability? Phillip McClain didn't let cerebral palsy stop him. At the age of 39, he took the GED Test and is now in college. Katherine Parish overcame a learning disability to get her GED at the age of 62. Althea O'Haver also overcame a learning disability to get both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree – while providing for her family.

All of these people will admit that going back was hard work. But they're glad they did.

### Getting Started

Money and child care are the biggest obstacles for many people who are thinking about going back to school. That's why this book starts with a section on **Support Services**. It will help you find financial aid, such as loans and scholarships, and child care in your area. (Several colleges and universities in Arkansas offer child care services for their students.)

Maybe you don't think you're ready for college. The **Adult Education** section presents a variety of free services that can help you learn to read, learn English, work on basic math and language skills, get your GED or improve basic work skills.

In the **Training Programs, Colleges and Universities** section, there are programs such as apprenticeships and one-year industry certification programs at the state's technical institutes. This section also lists the two-year and four-year colleges and universities in the state and describes their programs for adult students, child care services and financial aid.

The **Workforce Services** section describes the comprehensive pre-employment and employment services available through the Department of Workforce Services and the Arkansas Workforce Investment Board. These services will help you find and keep a job or improve your skills on the job.

The **Rehabilitation** section lists the field offices for Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, which helps train people with disabilities.

Please take a few minutes to look at the sections that would help you most. Call an adult education center, a college admissions counselor or a Workforce Services office. Find out what you need to do to Go Back. Move Forward. Then make the commitment.

# Section I:

## Support Services



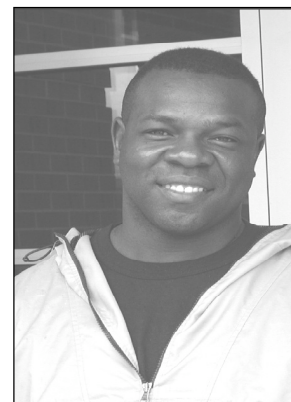


## Financial Aid

You may be thinking you'd love to go back to school, but you just can't afford it. The truth is you can't afford not to. Education is one of the best investments you can make – for your future and for your family.

**D**errick Wise, 33, is married with one daughter and two sons. The youngest of nine children, Derrick served in the Army for eight years and then was a stock handler at Whirlpool.

"I want to be a positive role model for my children and lead by example," Derrick says. "Education is important because it provides more opportunities for employment." Derrick set an example for his children by returning to school. He earned an associate degree in 2001, followed by a bachelor's degree in business administration in May 2004. Two months later, he was employed with AFLAC.



Getting started is not that difficult. You may qualify for a number of federal and state grants, loans, loan forgiveness programs and scholarships. Several private organizations and most colleges also offer scholarships. To start the process, you may want to fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as many grants, loans and scholarships are based on this form. See [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for more information about the FAFSA. (While this form cannot be completed before Jan. 1, you should complete it as soon as possible as many financial aid programs are on a first-come first-served basis.)

Another resource for help with your financial aid search is the Arkansas Scholarship Connection. This free online service looks for private and public grants and scholarships that you are eligible for. To access this service, visit <http://arkansasscholarshipconnection.org>.



Don't forget to check with your employer. Many businesses offer financial aid to employees seeking to improve their work skills. Another good resource is the financial aid office of colleges and universities, where you can get information about grants, scholarships, work/study programs, loans and tax credits.

The following financial aid programs are a sampling of what's available to nontraditional students in Arkansas.

### **Arkansas Health Education Grant**

This state-funded program helps Arkansas residents who attend specific out-of-state schools for health and medical programs that are not available in Arkansas. Covered programs are chiropractic medicine, dentistry, optometry, osteopathic medicine, podiatry and veterinary medicine. A limited number of grants are given for each discipline. Some dental students also may be eligible for a loan forgiveness program.

For more information, visit [www.arkansashighered.com/arheg.html](http://www.arkansashighered.com/arheg.html) or contact:

ARHEG Coordinator  
Arkansas Department of Higher Education  
114 E. Capitol Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
800-54-STUDY  
501-371-2000  
E-mail: [finaid@adhe.arknet.edu](mailto:finaid@adhe.arknet.edu)

### **Arkansas Technical Student Loan Forgiveness Program**

Students who plan to major in fields related to advanced manufacturing, biomedical/biotechnology or computer/information technology may be eligible for this loan forgiveness program. Under this state-funded program, up to \$10,000 in student loans may be forgiven (\$2,500 per year for a maximum of four years) – provided the student works in that field in Arkansas following graduation.

For more information and a list of approved programs by school, see <http://dwe.arkansas.gov/LoanForgiveness/atcsfip.htm> or call the Department of Workforce Education at 501-682-1699.



## **Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities Scholarship**

The commission offers a \$1,000 (minimum) scholarship to students with a disability who are either enrolling or already enrolled in a college or university. Applications must be submitted by Jan. 30. Applicants are evaluated on their community involvement, motivation, etc.

To get more information and an application for this scholarship, contact:

Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities  
Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 3781  
Little Rock, AR 72203  
501-296-1626  
TDD: 501-296-1623

## **Law Enforcement Dependents' Scholarship**

This state program helps the children and spouses of Arkansas law enforcement officers, firefighters, some Highway and Transportation Department employees, and other public employees who were killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty. The scholarship provides a waiver of tuition, fees, and room for undergraduate study at any public college, university, or technical institute in Arkansas.

For more information about this scholarship, call the Financial Aid Office at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education at 501-371-2050 or 800-54-STUDY, visit [www.arkansashighered.com/lawenforcement.html](http://www.arkansashighered.com/lawenforcement.html) or e-mail [finaid@adhe.arknet.edu](mailto:finaid@adhe.arknet.edu).

## **Luther H. Black Scholarship**

Named for Dr. Luther H. Black, the "father of adult education" in Arkansas, this scholarship recognizes a GED graduate who shows outstanding leadership, citizenship and professional promise. Students must be recommended by local scholarship committees. The deadline for the \$1,000 (minimum) scholarship is June 30. It is given by the Arkansas Association of Continuing and Adult Education.

For more information on this scholarship, contact your local adult education center (see listing on Page 14) or visit [www.aalrc.org/resources/ged/lhb.aspx](http://www.aalrc.org/resources/ged/lhb.aspx).



## Minority Teacher Scholars Program

This program provides scholarships of up to \$5,000 per academic year to African-American, Asian-American, Native-American and Hispanic students who have completed 60 semester credit hours, have either been admitted to an approved program resulting in teacher licensure or successfully passed their PPST examination, and will be attending a public or private college or university in Arkansas. Recipients must agree to teach in an Arkansas public school for five years after receiving their teaching license. June 1 is the deadline to apply for this program.

For more information about this program, visit [www.arkansashighered.com/mteachers.html](http://www.arkansashighered.com/mteachers.html).

Students who receive this scholarship may qualify for the Minority Masters Fellow Program when they are entering the fifth year of a teacher education program or a master's program. This program provides up to \$7,500 for one academic year or up to \$2,500 per summer for no more than three summers. The deadline to apply for this program is June 1.

For eligibility requirements, visit [www.arkansashighered.com/mmasters.html](http://www.arkansashighered.com/mmasters.html).

If you have questions about either of these programs, call the Financial Aid Office at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education at 501-371-2050 or 800-54-STUDY or e-mail [finaid@adhe.arknet.edu](mailto:finaid@adhe.arknet.edu).

## Missing In Action/Killed In Action Dependents' Scholarship

This state scholarship helps children and spouses of Arkansans who were killed or missing in action or who were prisoners of war. It provides a waiver of tuition, fees, room and board at any public college, university or technical institute in Arkansas for full-time students.

For more information about this scholarship, call the Financial Aid Office at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education at 501-371-2050 or 800-54-STUDY, e-mail [finaid@adhe.arknet.edu](mailto:finaid@adhe.arknet.edu) or visit [www.arkansashighered.com/miakia.html](http://www.arkansashighered.com/miakia.html).

## Second Effort Scholarship

A state-funded scholarship, the Second Effort was created to recognize the importance of the GED program and to encourage students who get their high school diploma through the GED to go on to college. Through this program,





the 10 students who score the highest on the GED Tests each year are offered a \$1,000 scholarship that is renewable for up to three more years.

For more information on the Second Effort Scholarship, call the Financial Aid Office at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education at 501-371-2050 or 800-54-STUDY, visit <http://arkansashighered.com/secondeffort.html> or e-mail [finaid@adhe.arknet.edu](mailto:finaid@adhe.arknet.edu).

### Single Parent Scholarship Fund

The Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund was created in 1990 as a private, nonprofit organization focused on helping single parents get a college education and improve their job skills. Today, this need-based scholarship is available in 68 counties. To qualify for this scholarship, you must:

- Live in Arkansas;
- Be a single parent with custodial care of a child who is a minor;
- Be eligible to receive federal financial aid;
- Not have previously earned a four-year degree, with the exception of those pursuing a master's degree in teaching.

A single parent, Lisa Lee saw a lot of obstacles to going back to school. "The four years of college looming in front of me seemed like a mountain I just wasn't strong enough to climb," she says.

With the help of a Single Parent Scholarship and other financial aid resources, Lisa committed to a two-year program at Northwest Arkansas Community College. "The faculty and staff at NWACC were very supportive and helped me to grow in so many ways," she says. "The smaller class sizes and personal attention were so important because I was unsure of myself."

After two successful years at the community college, Lisa was ready to get her bachelor's degree. She transferred to John Brown University and graduated with a degree in private accounting. Today, she is a cost accountant at DaySpring Cards in Siloam Springs.

"There have been so many blessings from going to college that space won't allow me to list them all," Lisa says, "but here are a few of them. My children have learned the importance of an education. My income jumped five times from before college to after college. I rose from government assistance to paying taxes. . . . I am very grateful."





For general information on the program, contact the main office:

Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund

614 E. Emma Ave., Suite 119

Springdale, AR 72764

479-927-1402

[www.aspsf.org](http://www.aspsf.org)

The deadlines for the Single Parent Scholarship vary from county to county, so please check with your local county affiliate.

**Ashley County** Association of Single Parent Scholarships

P.O. Box 190

Hamburg, AR 71646

[www.aspsf.org/apply/ashley.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/ashley.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of **Benton County**

3311 S.W. I St., Suite 9

Bentonville, AR 72712

479-254-8550

E-mail: [spsfbc@arkmola.net](mailto:spsfbc@arkmola.net)

[www.spsfbc.com](http://www.spsfbc.com)

**Carroll County** Single Parent Scholarship Committee

c/o DHA

P.O. Box 425

Berryville, AR 72616

[www.aspsf.org/apply/carroll.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/carroll.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of **Clay County**

P.O. Box 366

Piggott, AR 72454

[www.aspsf.org/apply/clay.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/clay.pdf)

**Cleburne County** Cares Single Parent Scholarship Program Fund

419 W. Main St.

Heber Springs, AR 72543

[www.aspsf.org/apply/cleburne.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/cleburne.pdf)

**Conway County** Care Center

c/o Single Parent Scholarship

Committee

P.O. Box 494

Morrilton, AR 72110

501-354-2418

[www.aspsf.org/apply/conway.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/conway.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of **Craighead County**

P.O. Box 212

Jonesboro, AR 72403

[www.aspsf.org/apply/craighead.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/craighead.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of **Crawford & Sebastian Counties**

United Way/Single Parent Scholarship

320 S. 18th St.

Fort Smith, AR 72901

[www.aspsf.org/apply/craw-seb.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/craw-seb.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of **Cross County**

P.O. Box 504

Wynne, AR 72396

[www.aspsf.org/apply/cross.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/cross.pdf)

**Desha County** Single Parent Scholarship Program Fund

Dumas Adult Education Center

124 N. Main St.

Dumas, AR 71639

[www.aspsf.org/apply/desha.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/desha.pdf)



**Faulkner County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
707 Robins, Suite 118  
Conway, AR 72034  
501-329-0977  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/faulkner.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/faulkner.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Franklin County**  
c/o ARVAC, Inc.  
320 N. Second St.  
Ozark, AR 72949  
501-667-2791  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/franklin.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/franklin.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Garland County**  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/garland.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/garland.pdf)

**Greene County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
1032 W. Kings Highway  
Paragould, AR 72450  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/greene.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/greene.pdf)

**Hot Spring County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
Malvern Operations  
1303 S. Main  
Malvern, AR 72104  
501-332-5426  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/hotsprings.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/hotsprings.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Jefferson County**  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/jefferson.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/jefferson.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Johnson County**  
415 N. College Ave.  
Clarksville, AR 72830  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/johnson.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/johnson.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Lawrence County**  
400 NW. Fourth St.  
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/lawrence.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/lawrence.pdf)

**Lincoln County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
P.O. Box 370  
Gould, AR 71643  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/lincoln.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/lincoln.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Logan County**  
c/o ARVAC, Inc.  
124 N. Elm  
Paris, AR 72855  
479-963-6325  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/logan.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/logan.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Lonoke County**  
115 Jefferson  
Lonoke, AR 72086  
501-676-2721  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/lonoke.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/lonoke.pdf)

**Madison County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
Huntsville High School  
P.O. Box 1377  
Huntsville, AR 72740  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/madison.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/madison.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Nevada County**  
1501 W. First St. North  
Prescott, AR 71857  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/nevada.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/nevada.pdf)



**Newton County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
c/o Newton County Resource Council  
P.O. Box 513  
Jasper, AR 72641  
870-446-5898  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/newton.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/newton.pdf)

**Phillips County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
427 E. Garland Ave.  
West Helena, AR 72390  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/phillips.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/phillips.pdf)

**Poinsett County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
P.O. Box 280  
Marked Tree, AR 72365  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/poinsett.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/poinsett.pdf)

**Pope-Yell County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
P.O. Box 2066  
Russellville, AR 72811  
479-968-3110  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/pope-yell.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/pope-yell.pdf)

**Prairie County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
P.O. Box 487  
DesArc, AR 72040  
870-255-4549  
[www.aspsf.org/affiliates/prairie.htm](http://www.aspsf.org/affiliates/prairie.htm)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Pulaski County**  
1333 Main St.  
North Little Rock, AR 72114  
501-376-4119  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/pulaski.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/pulaski.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Union County**  
c/o South Arkansas Community College  
300 S. West Ave.  
El Dorado, AR 71730  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/union.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/union.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**Washington County**  
614 E. Emma, Suite 103  
Springdale, AR 72764  
479-750-4971  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/washington.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/washington.pdf)

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of  
**White County**  
P.O. Box 8325  
Searcy, AR 72145  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/white.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/white.pdf)

**Woodruff County** Single Parent  
Scholarship Fund  
c/o Family Resource Center  
P.O. Box 54  
Augusta, AR 72006  
[www.aspsf.org/apply/woodruff.pdf](http://www.aspsf.org/apply/woodruff.pdf)



## State Teacher Assistance Resource (STAR)

The STAR program provides up to \$6,000 per year (or a total of \$18,000 for a five-year education degree program) for people willing to teach math, science, special education or foreign languages and/or in an area of Arkansas that has a critical shortage of teachers.

For complete details about this program, call the Financial Aid Office at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education at 501-371-2050 or 800-54-STUDY, e-mail [finaid@adhe.arknet.edu](mailto:finaid@adhe.arknet.edu) or visit [www.arkansashighered.com/star.html](http://www.arkansashighered.com/star.html).

## Student Assistant Grant

This \$600/year award is a state-funded, need-based grant given on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date the application is received. To apply, submit the FAFSA as early as possible; April 1 is the deadline. The number of grants awarded depends on state funding.

This grant is available to both traditional and nontraditional students who will be attending an approved public or private college or university in Arkansas. For more information about this grant, call the Financial Aid Office at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education at 501-371-2050 or 800-54-STUDY, e-mail [finaid@adhe.arknet.edu](mailto:finaid@adhe.arknet.edu) or see [www.arkansashighered.com/sag.html](http://www.arkansashighered.com/sag.html).

## Teacher and Administrator Grant

This state-funded program reimburses certified teachers and administrators for coursework taken during the summer terms. For all the specifics about this grant, call the Financial Aid Office at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education at 501-371-2050 or 800-54-STUDY, e-mail [finaid@adhe.arknet.edu](mailto:finaid@adhe.arknet.edu) or visit [www.arkansashighered.com/teachergrant.html](http://www.arkansashighered.com/teachergrant.html).

**M**organ Harrison first attended night classes at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock. After she got married, she moved overseas to England but continued working on her bachelor's degree through UALR's online program.

**W**orking online, students are paired with an online advisor who helps them develop an individualized program of study. In addition to her online studies, Morgan works for a high school in the United Kingdom and hopes to become a mentor at the school.





## Veterans Educational Benefits

If you are a veteran or the child or spouse of a veteran, you may qualify for veteran's educational benefits. The Arkansas State Approving Agency for Veterans Training can tell you what benefits are available and help you with the application process. To get started, visit <http://dwe.arkansas.gov/veterans.html> or contact:

State Approving Agency for Veterans Training  
2020 W. Third St., Suite 301  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501-324-9473

Linda Taylor liked the culinary arts program at Ozarka College so much that she came back to the program as an assistant instructor. It's a second career for Linda, who had retired from the military. Using her veteran's benefits, she earned an associate's degree as well as a technical certificate from Ozarka's one-of-a-kind culinary arts program.

"I wanted to do something since the military afforded me this opportunity to further my education," Linda says. "I knew about Ozarka College and discovered the culinary program and thought it would be perfect."

## Workforce Improvement Grant

The state-funded Workforce Improvement Grant gives up to \$1,800 a year to students who are at least 24 years old and enrolled in a minimum of three credit hours at an approved Arkansas public college or university. To apply, submit your FAFSA by July 15. For more information on this grant, contact the financial aid office at the college or university you plan to attend.

## Other Sources of Financial Aid

### **Pell Grant**

A federal Pell Grant, unlike a loan, does not have to be repaid. Generally, Pell Grants are awarded only to undergraduate students, both part-time and full-time, who have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree. How much you get

depends on your family income, cost of your education, whether you're a full-time or part-time student, etc. For more information on this federal grant program, visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student\\_guide/20032004/english/types.htm](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student_guide/20032004/english/types.htm).

### **Student Loans**

Through its network of Arkansas banks, the Arkansas Student Loan Authority (ASLA) provides money for college to Arkansas students. This state agency offers low-cost student loans, competitive borrower incentives and support. It can help you with the following:

- Federal Stafford loans
- Federal PLUS (parent) loans
- Private student loans
- Student loan consolidation
- Arkansas Edloan Program
- ASLA borrower benefit programs

For more about ASLA and its services, see [www.asla.info](http://www.asla.info) or contact:

Arkansas Student Loan Authority  
101 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 401  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
800-443-6030

### **Tuition Reimbursement**

If you're a full-time employee, your company may pay for higher education courses that improve your job skills. Often a company will reimburse all or a portion of your tuition and other expenses, provided you make good grades. And if your employer is an eligible business, it could receive a 30 percent income tax credit for these costs.

For more information about this tax credit, your employer can go to [http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/income\\_tax/1999-4.htm](http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/income_tax/1999-4.htm).

### **Federal Income Tax Credits**

You may use the Hope Scholarship Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit for tuition or education expenses if you meet income requirements and go to an accredited college, university or vocational school.

The **Hope Credit** helps pay for a two-year degree or certificate program at a community college or for the first two years of a four-year program. The credit covers 100 percent of the first \$1,000 of tuition (but not room, board or books),



plus 50 percent of the next \$1,000 of tuition and other school expenses. This is not a deduction, but a credit, which means a maximum \$1,500 credit per year can be taken from your total tax bill, dollar for dollar.

The maximum **Lifetime Learning Credit** is higher than the Hope, and it also has fewer restrictions. You can qualify for a credit of up to \$2,000 and take any course you wish, whether it applies toward an undergraduate degree or a professional degree – or just an individual course to help with your job skills. You can take this credit year after year, without limit.

Information about these tax credits is available at  
<http://www.ed.gov/updates/97918tax.html>.



## Child Care

One of the biggest road blocks to going back to school – whether to get a GED or a college degree – is child care. But going back to school is one of the best decisions you can make for your children. Not only can it improve your income, it can also help you set an example for your children. Many parents have discovered that by returning to school, they have helped their children understand the importance of education.

Arkansas offers assistance to families who can't afford child care. This assistance is available to working adults as well as full-time students who maintain a 2.0 grade point average. The amount of help depends on your monthly income and family size, as well as the state funding available for the program.

For more information, contact the state office.

### State Office

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
Arkansas Department of Human Services  
501-682-8869 or 800-322-8176  
[www.arkansas.gov/childcare/ccassis.html](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare/ccassis.html)

To find a quality child care center in your area, contact

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
Arkansas Department of Human Services  
501-682-4891 or 800-445-3316  
[www.arkansas.gov/childcare/search.html](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare/search.html)



# Section II:

## Adult Education

ADULT EDUCATION





## Adult Education Centers

Adult education centers in Arkansas offer FREE programs to help adults learn basic skills, get and keep a job, go to college or training programs, help their children in school, earn a high school diploma or learn English as a second language. To learn more about adult education in Arkansas, contact your local adult education center or the state office.

### State Office

#### Arkansas Department of Workforce Education

Adult Education Section

Three Capitol Mall

Little Rock, AR 72201

501-682-1970

<http://dwe.arkansas.gov/adult.html>

### Local Adult Education Centers by County Served

(Look under your county for the services available in your area.)

#### Arkansas County

Stuttgart School District/Arkansas  
County Adult Education Program

2501 S. Main St.

Stuttgart, AR 72160

870-673-2822

1322 Bradley Drive, Suite 7

Mountain Home, AR 72653

870-425-7974

[www.asumh.edu/general/adult\\_ed.htm](http://www.asumh.edu/general/adult_ed.htm)

#### Ashley County

Hamburg School District/Ashley County  
Adult Education Program

311 N. Mulberry St.

Hamburg, AR 71646

870-853-8278

#### Benton County

Northwest Arkansas Community  
College Adult Education Program

2710 Wood Lane

Rogers, AR 72756

479-986-6911

[www.nwacc.edu/adulted/index.php](http://www.nwacc.edu/adulted/index.php)

UAM College of Technology in Crossett  
Adult Education Program

1326 Hwy. 52 West

Crossett, AR 71635

870-364-6414

#### Boone County

North Arkansas College Adult  
Education Center

1515 Pioneer Ridge

Harrison, AR 72601

870-391-3198

[www.northark.edu/Catalog\\_2002-2004/auxiliary\\_education\\_programs.htm](http://www.northark.edu/Catalog_2002-2004/auxiliary_education_programs.htm)

#### Baxter County

ASU Mountain Home Adult  
Education Program



### **Bradley County**

Southeast Arkansas Community-  
Based Education Program  
800 N. Walnut St.  
Warren, AR 71671  
870-226-6920

### **Calhoun County**

Southeast Arkansas Community-  
Based Education Program  
800 N. Walnut St.  
Warren, AR 71671  
870-226-6920

### **Carroll County**

North Arkansas College  
Adult Education Center  
1515 Pioneer Ridge  
Harrison, AR 72601  
870-391-3198  
[www.northark.edu/Catalog\\_2002-  
2004/auxiliary\\_education\\_programs.htm](http://www.northark.edu/Catalog_2002-2004/auxiliary_education_programs.htm)

### **Chicot County**

Dermott School District/Chicot County  
Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 310  
Dermott, AR 71638  
870-538-1052

### **Clark County**

Arkadelphia School District/Clark  
County Adult Education Program  
235 N. 11th St.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
870-246-5675  
<http://apsd.k12.ar.us/admin/adulted.html>

### **Clay County**

Black River Technical College Adult  
Education Program  
P.O. Box 468  
Pocahontas, AR 72455  
870-248-4000, Ext. 4130

**W**hen Claudia Fountain left high school in her senior year, she went to work so she could help her family.

**N**ow a wife and mother, Claudia earned her Arkansas high school diploma by taking the GED Test at the Conway Adult Education Center because she wanted something better for herself and her family. She is in the vehicle export business, but in her spare time, she is an advocate with the Hispanic community in the Conway area. With Spanish as her first language, Claudia helps others find ways to help break the barriers of language. She teaches Spanish at the elementary level and often serves as a translator at hospitals or for law enforcement. She is working toward a degree in Spanish/ESL at the University of Central Arkansas.



"You might be presented with challenges in life. But it's up to you to choose how you overcome them."

GED Graduate

**Cleburne County**

ASU – Searcy Adult Education Program

P.O. Box 909

Searcy, AR 72145-0909

501-207-4090

**Cleveland County**

Arkansas River Education Service  
Co-op Adult Education Program

912 W. Sixth Ave.

Pine Bluff, AR 71601

870-534-6129

<http://genie.arasc.k12.ar.us/AdultEducation/Programs.htm>

Jefferson County Adult Education Program

414 Walnut St.

Pine Bluff, AR 71601

870-534-0749

**Columbia County**

Magnolia School District/Columbia County Adult Education Center

811 Calhoun Road

Magnolia, AR 71753

870-234-6064

<http://genie.arasc.k12.ar.us/AdultEducation/Programs.htm>

Elizabeth Lemus is a wife, mother, second-language learner and GED graduate. When she moved to Conway in 2000 with her family, Elizabeth spoke little English. She found out about Conway Adult Education Center through a friend and began attending classes and studying English at home. Her speaking, listening, reading and writing skills improved tremendously.

Through hard work, dedication and faithful attendance to ESL classes, Elizabeth completed the highest level of proficiency in the English as a second language program – while she worked full time at a local factory.

With the encouragement of her instructors and husband, Elizabeth entered the GED program, determined to take the tests in English. It was a demanding six months as Elizabeth worked full time, took care of her family and attended GED night classes regularly. Her efforts paid off when Elizabeth scored near scholarship level on the GED exam.



Earning the GED in English gave Elizabeth confidence to accept new challenges. When the factory where she worked began to talk of shutting down, Elizabeth opened her own cleaning business. Her next challenge is to



### **Conway County**

University of Arkansas Community  
College at Morrilton Adult Education  
Program  
One Bruce St.  
Morrilton, AR 72110  
501-977-2132  
[www.uaccm.edu/Comm-Adult/comm-ed.htm](http://www.uaccm.edu/Comm-Adult/comm-ed.htm)

### **Craighead County**

Jonesboro School District Adult  
Education Center  
2311 E. Nettleton, Suite I  
Jonesboro, AR 72401  
870-933-5896

### **Crawford County**

Van Buren School District/Crawford  
County Adult Education Program  
605 Alma Blvd.  
Van Buren, AR 72956  
501-471-0019

### **Crittenden County**

Mid-South Community College  
Adult Education Program  
2000 W. Broadway  
West Memphis, AR 72301  
870-733-6760  
[www.midsouthcc.edu/adulted/ged/ged\\_generalinfo.htm](http://www.midsouthcc.edu/adulted/ged/ged_generalinfo.htm)

### **Cross County**

Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute  
Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 925  
Forrest City, AR 72336-0925  
870-633-5411  
[www.crti.tec.ar.us](http://www.crti.tec.ar.us)

### **Dallas County**

Arkansas River Education Service Co-op  
Adult Education Program  
912 W. Sixth Ave.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-534-6129  
<http://genie.arasc.k12.ar.us/AdultEducation/Programs.htm>

As a home-schooled student, Chris Killough thought there was little chance of getting a good job without a high school diploma, so he took and passed the GED Test at Conway Adult Education Center.

Having the Arkansas high school diploma enabled Chris to enlist in the military. It also qualified him for restaurant management. Chris now has a busy life as an Army reservist and manager of a fast-food restaurant in Conway. His future plans include going to college to become a history teacher.





**Jefferson County Adult Education Program**  
414 Walnut St.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-534-0749

**Desha County**  
Dumas School District Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 364  
Dumas, AR 71639  
870-382-2157

UAM College of Technology –  
McGehee Adult Education Program  
Hwy. 1 Northeast  
McGehee, AR 71654  
870-222-5360  
[www.uamont.edu/mcgehee/AdultEducation.htm](http://www.uamont.edu/mcgehee/AdultEducation.htm)

**Drew County**  
Monticello School District Adult Education Center  
809 Hwy. 278 East  
Monticello, AR 71655  
870-367-4070

**Faulkner County**  
Conway School District Adult Education Program  
615 E. Robins St.  
Conway, AR 72032  
501-450-4810  
<http://www.caec.org>

**Franklin County**  
Arkansas Technical University  
Ozark Campus/Logan & Franklin County Adult Education Program  
Hwy. 23 North  
Ozark, AR 72949  
479-667-2117

**Fulton County**  
Ozarka College Adult Education Program  
218 College Drive  
Melbourne, AR 72556  
870-368-2051  
[www.ozarka.edu/d\\_ae.cfm?master=1](http://www.ozarka.edu/d_ae.cfm?master=1)

Alejandra Reyes needed a better job and wanted to show her son the importance of finishing school.

She earned her Arkansas high school diploma by taking the GED Test at the Russellville Adult Education Center. She set an example for her son and others – proving that completing your education gives you more choices in life. Now Alejandra is working toward an associate's degree in early childhood education; she hopes to continue her education and become a nurse. In the meantime, she is gaining valuable experience working as a translator with the Arkansas Department of Health and at a child development center.



Alejandra's advice is to persevere and never lose hope that there is a better future.





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### **Garland County**

National Park Community College  
Adult Education Program  
101 College Drive  
Hot Springs, AR 71913  
501-760-4339  
[www.npcc.edu/Academics/adult\\_ed.htm](http://www.npcc.edu/Academics/adult_ed.htm)

### **Grant County**

Sheridan School District/Grant County  
Adult Education Program  
400 N. Rock  
Sheridan, AR 72150  
870-942-3135

### **Greene County**

Arkansas Northeastern College  
Adult Education Program  
500 W. Chickasawba  
Blytheville, AR 72315  
870-762-1020, Ext. 1192  
[www.anc.edu/adult\\_ed.htm](http://www.anc.edu/adult_ed.htm)

### **Hempstead County**

Hope School District Adult  
Education Program  
117 E. Second St.  
Hope, AR 71801  
870-722-2744

### **Hot Spring County**

Ouachita Technical College  
Adult Education Program  
1735 E. Sullenberger  
Malvern, AR 72104  
501-337-5000  
[www.otcweb.org/adult.html](http://www.otcweb.org/adult.html)

### **Howard County**

Cossatot Community College  
of the U. of A. Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 960  
DeQueen, AR 71832  
870-584-4471  
[http://ctc.tec.ar.us/services/adult\\_ed/index.htm](http://ctc.tec.ar.us/services/adult_ed/index.htm)

### **Independence County**

University of Arkansas Community  
College at Batesville Adult Education  
Program  
P.O. Box 3350  
Batesville, AR 72503  
870-793-7581  
[www.uacccb.edu/Academic\\_Divisions/Adult\\_Ed/Adult\\_Ed.htm](http://www.uacccb.edu/Academic_Divisions/Adult_Ed/Adult_Ed.htm)

### **Izard County**

Ozarka College Adult Education  
Program  
218 College Drive  
Melbourne, AR 72556  
870-368-2051  
[www.ozarka.edu/d\\_ae.cfm?master=1](http://www.ozarka.edu/d_ae.cfm?master=1)

### **Jackson County**

ASU-Newport/Jackson County Adult  
Education Program  
7648 Victory Blvd.  
Newport, AR 72112  
870-512-7824  
[www.asun.edu/adult\\_education](http://www.asun.edu/adult_education)

### **Jefferson County**

Arkansas Dept. of Corrections School  
District Adult Education Program  
8000 Correction Circle  
Pine Bluff, AR 71603  
870-267-6725  
[www.state.ar.us/adcsd](http://www.state.ar.us/adcsd)

### **Arkansas River Education Service Co-op**

Adult Education Program  
912 W. Sixth Ave.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-534-6129

[http://genie.arasc.k12.ar.us/Adult\\_Education/Programs.htm](http://genie.arasc.k12.ar.us/Adult_Education/Programs.htm)

### **Jefferson County Adult Education Program**

414 Walnut St.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-534-0749



**Southeast Arkansas College**  
Adult Education Program  
1900 Hazel St.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71603  
870-543-5915  
[www.seark.edu/aewdc/abe-ged.htm](http://www.seark.edu/aewdc/abe-ged.htm)

**Johnson County**  
Clarksville School District/Johnson  
County Adult Education Program  
400 Cherry St.  
Clarksville, AR 72830  
479-754-2620

**Lafayette County**  
Texarkana School District Adult  
Education Program  
3512 Grand Ave.  
Texarkana, AR 71854  
870-774-4414  
<http://txk.k12.ar.us/adulted>

**Lawrence County**  
Black River Technical College  
Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 468  
Pocahontas, AR 72455  
870-248-4000, Ext. 4130

**Lee County**  
Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute  
Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 925  
Forrest City, AR 72336-0925  
870-633-5411  
[www.crti.tec.ar.us](http://www.crti.tec.ar.us)

**Lincoln County**  
Star City School District/Lincoln County  
Adult Education Program  
206 Cleveland St.  
Star City, AR 71667-5218  
870-628-5287

**F**eeling disconnected in high school, Chris Pleimann dropped out. He just wasn't interested in school.

**B**ut Chris knew that to be taken seriously, he had to demonstrate that he could perform. He also knew that to reach his personal goals, he had to have a high school diploma. With the support of his family and the staff at the Fayetteville Adult Education Center, Chris passed the GED Test, earning his Arkansas high school diploma.

**S**ince then, he has earned an associate's degree in criminal justice. As a patrol officer, he puts his degree and communication skills to good use.





**Little River County**

Texarkana School District Adult  
Education Program  
3512 Grand Ave.  
Texarkana, AR 71854  
870-774-4414  
<http://txk.k12.ar.us/adulted>

**Logan County**

Arkansas Technical University Ozark  
Campus/Logan & Franklin County  
Adult Education Program  
Hwy. 23 North  
Ozark, AR 72949  
479-667-2117

**Lonoke County**

Lonoke School District/Lonoke County  
Adult Education Center  
P.O. Box 147  
Lonoke, AR 72086  
501-676-7074

**Madison County**

North Arkansas College Adult  
Education Center  
1515 Pioneer Ridge  
Harrison, AR 72601  
870-391-3198  
[www.northark.edu/Catalog\\_2002-2004/  
auxiliary\\_education\\_programs.htm](http://www.northark.edu/Catalog_2002-2004/auxiliary_education_programs.htm)

**Marion County**

North Arkansas College Adult  
Education Center  
1515 Pioneer Ridge  
Harrison, AR 72601  
870-391-3198  
[www.northark.edu/Catalog\\_2002-  
2004/auxiliary\\_education\\_programs.htm](http://www.northark.edu/Catalog_2002-2004/auxiliary_education_programs.htm)

**Miller County**

Texarkana School District Adult  
Education Program  
3512 Grand Ave.  
Texarkana, AR 71854  
870-774-4414  
<http://txk.k12.ar.us/adulted>

**Mississippi County**

Arkansas Northeastern College Adult  
Education Program  
500 W. Chickasawba  
Blytheville, AR 72315  
870-762-1020, Ext. 1192  
[www.anc.edu/adult\\_ed.htm](http://www.anc.edu/adult_ed.htm)

**Monroe County**

Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute  
Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 925  
Forrest City, AR 72336-0925  
870-633-5411  
[www.crti.tec.ar.us](http://www.crti.tec.ar.us)

**Montgomery County**

Rich Mountain Community College  
Adult Education Program  
1100 College Drive  
Mena, AR 71953  
479-394-7622  
[www.rmcc.cc.ar.us/adultedinfo.htm](http://www.rmcc.cc.ar.us/adultedinfo.htm)

**Nevada County**

Texarkana School District Adult  
Education Program  
3512 Grand Ave.  
Texarkana, AR 71854  
870-774-4414  
<http://txk.k12.ar.us/adulted>



### **Newton County**

North Arkansas College Adult  
Education Center  
1515 Pioneer Ridge  
Harrison, AR 72601  
870-391-3198  
[www.northark.edu/Catalog\\_2002-2004/auxiliary\\_education\\_programs.htm](http://www.northark.edu/Catalog_2002-2004/auxiliary_education_programs.htm)

### **Ouachita County**

Southern Arkansas University Tech  
Adult Education Program  
746 California Ave.  
Camden, AR 71701  
870-837-4001

### **Perry County**

University of Arkansas Community  
College at Morrilton/Perry County  
Adult Education Program  
Hwy. 60  
Perryville, AR 72126  
501-889-2346  
[www.uaccm.edu/Comm-Adult/comm-ed.htm](http://www.uaccm.edu/Comm-Adult/comm-ed.htm)

### **Phillips County**

Phillips County Community College  
University of Arkansas Adult Education  
Program  
P.O. Box 785  
Helena, AR 72342-0785  
870-338-6474  
[www.pccua.edu/adulteducation](http://www.pccua.edu/adulteducation)

**A**s a high school student, Kathy Davis' favorite place was the library. Kathy married at a young age and left school because of her son's health problems. She earned her Arkansas high school diploma a short time later by taking the GED Test.

**K**athy enrolled in college but dropped out after two years when she became a single parent. She promised herself that she would go back to school the next year, but the years kept going by. With encouragement from her co-workers, Kathy eventually went back to college. There were plenty of non-traditional students at the University of Arkansas at Monticello, so she didn't feel out of place.

**K**athy earned a bachelor's degree in computer information systems and is the first in her family to get a college degree. Her goal is to get her master's degree and teach. Kathy's philosophy is simple: Never give up. She believes that when you achieve one goal, you should set another one.



**Pike County**

Rich Mountain Community College  
Adult Education Program  
1100 College Drive  
Mena, AR 71953  
479-394-7622  
[www.rmcc.cc.ar.us/adultedinfo.htm](http://www.rmcc.cc.ar.us/adultedinfo.htm)

**Poinsett County**

Arkansas State University Technical  
Center Adult Education Program  
33500 Hwy. 63 East  
Marked Tree, AR 72365  
870-358-2117  
[www.asuttc.org/adulted2003.htm](http://www.asuttc.org/adulted2003.htm)

**Polk County**

Rich Mountain Community College  
Adult Education Program  
1100 College Drive  
Mena, AR 71953  
479-394-7622  
[www.rmcc.cc.ar.us/adultedinfo.htm](http://www.rmcc.cc.ar.us/adultedinfo.htm)

**Pope County**

Russellville School District Adult  
Education Program  
P.O. Box 928  
Russellville, AR 72801  
479-968-5244

**Prairie County**

Lonoke School District/Lonoke County  
Adult Education Center  
P.O. Box 147  
Lonoke, AR 72086  
501-676-7073

**Pulaski County**

Little Rock School District Adult  
Education Center  
4800 W. 26th St.  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
501-447-1850  
[www.lrsd.org/Departments/deptindex.cfm?sccode=104](http://www.lrsd.org/Departments/deptindex.cfm?sccode=104)

**W**hen Lela Robertson was widowed after years of marriage, she had a lot of time on her hands.

**L**ela decided she needed to do something with her life; she wanted to get her high school diploma. (She had left school years ago to start a family – that was when married students were not allowed to attend school.) Encouraged by her children, Lela enrolled in the GED program at the Conway Adult Education Center. She took and passed the GED Test at the age of 72.

**N**ow Lela works part time as a receptionist at the adult education center. She's a role model and a surrogate "grandmother" to many of the younger students at the center. She continues to learn by reading and taking computer classes.





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Little Rock School District  
Arkansas School for the Deaf  
Adult Education Program  
2400 W. Markham  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501-324-9514

Pulaski County Special School  
District Adult Education Program  
4300 Haywood St.  
North Little Rock, AR 72117  
501-945-6055

Shorter College Adult Education  
Program  
604 Locust St.  
North Little Rock, AR 72114  
501-372-1547

**Randolph County**  
Black River Technical College Adult  
Education Program  
P.O. Box 468  
Pocahontas, AR 72455  
870-248-4000, Ext. 4130

**St. Francis**  
Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute  
Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 925  
Forrest City, AR 72336-0925  
870-633-5411  
[www.crti.tec.ar.us](http://www.crti.tec.ar.us)

Forrest City School District Adult  
Education Program  
845 N. Rosser  
Forrest City, AR 72335  
870-261-1807

### **Saline County**

Pulaski Technical College  
Adult Education Program  
16936 Interstate 30  
Benton, AR 72015  
501-778-3235  
[www.pulaskitech.edu/continuing\\_education/saline\\_county\\_aec.asp](http://www.pulaskitech.edu/continuing_education/saline_county_aec.asp)

### **Scott County**

Rich Mountain Community College  
Adult Education Program  
1100 College Drive  
Mena, AR 71953  
479-394-7622  
[www.rmcc.cc.ar.us/adultedinfo.htm](http://www.rmcc.cc.ar.us/adultedinfo.htm)

### **Searcy County**

North Central Career Center Adult  
Education Program  
330 Oak St.  
Leslie, AR 72645  
870-447-6111

### **Sebastian County**

Fort Smith School District Adult  
Education Program  
501 S. 20th St.  
Fort Smith, AR 72901  
479-785-1232  
[www.fssc.k12.ar.us/schools/adulted/page1.htm](http://www.fssc.k12.ar.us/schools/adulted/page1.htm)

### **Sevier County**

Cossatot Community College  
of the U. of A. Adult Education  
Program  
P.O. Box 960  
DeQueen, AR 71832  
870-584-4471  
<http://ctc.tec.ar.us/services/adulted/index.htm>



### **Sharp County**

Ozarka College Adult Education Program  
218 College Drive  
Melbourne, AR 72556  
870-368-2051  
[www.ozarka.edu/d\\_ae.cfm?master=1](http://www.ozarka.edu/d_ae.cfm?master=1)

### **Stone County**

Ozarka College Adult Education Program  
218 College Drive  
Melbourne, AR 72556  
870-368-2051  
[www.ozarka.edu/d\\_ae.cfm?master=1](http://www.ozarka.edu/d_ae.cfm?master=1)

### **Union County**

South Arkansas Community College Adult Education Program  
300 S. West Ave.  
El Dorado, AR 71731-7010  
870-862-8131  
[www.southark.edu/programs/adulted.htm](http://www.southark.edu/programs/adulted.htm)

### **Van Buren County**

North Central Career Center Adult Education Program  
330 Oak St.  
Leslie, AR 72645  
870-447-6111

### **Washington County**

Fayetteville School District Adult Education Program  
800 S. Church  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
479-444-3041  
[www.fayar.net/adulted/AdultEd/adulted.html](http://www.fayar.net/adulted/AdultEd/adulted.html)

Northwest Arkansas Community College Adult Education Program  
2710 Wood Lane  
Rogers, AR 72756  
479-986-6911  
[www.nwacc.edu/adulted/index.php](http://www.nwacc.edu/adulted/index.php)

### **White County**

ASU – Searcy Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 909  
Searcy, AR 72145-0909  
501-207-4090

### **Woodruff County**

ASU Newport/Jackson County Adult Education Program  
7648 Victory Blvd.  
Newport, AR 72112  
870-512-7824  
[www.asun.edu/adult\\_education](http://www.asun.edu/adult_education)

### **Yell County**

Russellville School District Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 928  
Russellville, AR 72801  
479-968-5244



## Literacy Councils

If you need help with reading or writing, you can call a literacy council. You'll find people who are trained to work with you at your own pace to help you learn to read better. And the tutoring is free.

For more information on how a literacy council can help you, contact your local council or the state office.

### State Office

Arkansas Literacy Councils  
4942 W. Markham, Suite 1  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501-663-4321  
[www.arkansasliteracy.org](http://www.arkansasliteracy.org)

### Local Literacy Councils by County

(Look under your county for the services available in your area.)

#### Arkansas County

Literacy Council of Arkansas County  
P.O. Box 94  
Stuttgart, AR 72160  
870-673-4551

#### Baxter County

Twin Lakes Literacy Council  
1322 Bradley Drive, Suite 7  
Mountain Home, AR 72653  
870-425-7323

#### Benton County

Literacy Council of Benton County  
P. O. Box 372  
Bentonville, AR 72712  
479-273-3486

Dogwood Literacy Council  
P. O. Box 1353  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761  
479-524-4009

#### Bradley County

Bradley County Literacy Council  
115 E. Cypress  
Warren, AR 71671  
870-226-2410

#### Calhoun County

Ouachita-Calhoun Counties Literacy Council  
100 Carr  
Camden, AR 71701  
870-574-4518

#### Carroll County

Carroll County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 740  
Berryville, AR 72616  
870-423-4500

#### Chicot County

Chicot County Adult Education Program  
P.O. Box 310  
Dermott, AR 71638  
870-538-1052

**Clark County**

Clark County Adult Education Program  
235 N. 11th St.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
870-246-5675

**Cleburne County**

Little Red Literacy Council  
102 E. Main St.  
Heber Springs, AR 72543  
501-362-2821

**Columbia County**

Magnolia/Columbia County Adult  
Education Center and Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 1440  
Magnolia, AR 71754  
870-234-6064

**Conway County**

Conway County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 242  
Morrilton, AR 72110  
501-354-8123

**Craighead County**

Literacy League Serving Craighead  
and Poinsett Counties  
P.O. Box 9251  
Jonesboro, AR 72403  
870-910-6511

**Crawford County**

Crawford County Volunteers for  
Literacy  
P.O. Box 1107  
Van Buren, AR 72956  
501-474-4594

**Crittenden County**

Literacy Council of Crittenden County  
2000 W. Broadway  
West Memphis, AR 72301  
870-733-6763

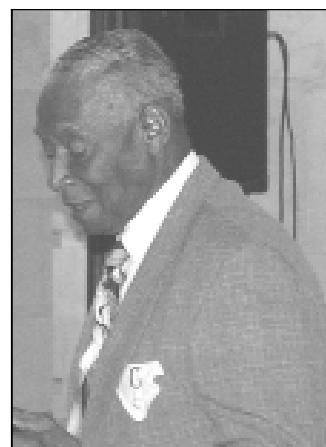
**Cross County**

Cross County Literacy Council  
704 E. Canal  
Wynne, AR 72396  
870-238-5400

**B**orn into a Texas sharecropper family in the days of segregation, Elroy Chinn didn't get to go to school – or even learn to read. "My mama could write her name – that was all," Elroy says. "No one read in our family."

**A**ll his life, Elroy hid the fact that he couldn't read. But his desire to read grew and grew – especially his desire to read the Bible from cover to cover. When he was 84, he told his wife about his dream. He also told her that he couldn't go to school at his age. "Age ain't got nothing to do with it," she said.

**E**ncouraged by his wife, Elroy stopped by the Twin Lakes Literacy Council in Mountain Home. Ever since, he has studied twice a week with volunteer tutors. Today at 86, he reads every chance he gets, and he tells everyone who will listen that it's never too late to learn.







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### **Dallas County**

Dallas County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 858  
Fordyce, AR 71742  
870-352-8880

### **Desha County**

Dumas Adult Education Center and  
Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 364  
Dumas, AR 71639  
870-382-2157

### **Drew County**

Drew County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 534  
Monticello, AR 71655  
870-367-7007

### **Faulkner County**

Faulkner County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 2106  
Conway, AR 72034  
501-329-7323

### **Franklin County**

Aux Arc Literacy Council  
800 W. Commercial  
Ozark, AR 72949  
479-667-2868

### **Garland County**

Literacy Council of Garland County  
119 Hobson Ave.  
Hot Springs, AR 71901  
501-624-7323

### **Grant County**

Literacy Council of Grant County  
P.O. Box 432  
Sheridan, AR 72150  
870-942-5711

### **Hempstead County**

SWADC Learning Center  
P.O. Box 574  
Hope, AR 71801  
870-777-8892

### **Hot Spring County**

Literacy Council of Hot Spring County  
P.O. Box 1485  
Malvern, AR 72104  
501-332-4039

### **Jefferson County**

Literacy Council of Jefferson County  
402 E. Fifth St.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-536-7323

### **Johnson County**

Center for English Language  
Education  
1113 W. Main St.  
Clarksville, AR 72830  
479-705-9065

### **Lafayette County**

Learning Center of Lafayette County  
P.O. Box 1111  
Texarkana, AR 75504  
870-533-1400

### **Lawrence County**

Literacy Council of Lawrence County  
P.O. Box 903  
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476  
870-886-7717, Ext. 12

### **Little River County**

Learning Center of Little River County  
P.O. Box 1111  
Texarkana, AR 75504  
870-898-2600



**Lonoke County**

Literacy Council of Lonoke County  
P.O. Box 234  
Lonoke, AR 72086  
501-676-7078

**Marion County**

Marion County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 437  
Summit, AR 72677  
870-449-5459

**Miller County**

Literacy Council of Bowie & Miller  
Counties  
P.O. Box 1111  
Texarkana, AR 75504  
870-774-0188

**Mississippi County**

Mississippi County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 682  
Blytheville, AR 72316  
870-763-0032

**Monroe County**

Literacy Council of Monroe County  
234 W. Cedar  
Brinkley, AR 72021  
870-734-3333

**Montgomery County**

Community Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 1382  
Mt. Ida, AR 71957  
870-867-2602

**Nevada County**

SWADC Learning Center  
P.O. Box 217  
Prescott, AR 71857  
870-887-5536

**Newton County**

Literacy Council of North Central Arkansas  
P.O. Box 187  
Leslie, AR 72645  
870-447-3241

**Ouachita County**

Ouachita-Calhoun Counties Literacy  
Council  
100 Carr  
Camden, AR 71701  
870-574-4518

**Poinsett County**

Literacy League Serving Craighead and  
Poinsett Counties  
P.O. Box 9251  
Jonesboro, AR 72403  
870-910-6511

**Polk County**

Polk County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 811  
Mena, AR 71953  
479-394-7120

**Pope County**

Pope County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 1276  
Russellville, AR 72811  
501-967-7323

**Pulaski County**

The Learning Center of  
North Little Rock  
P.O. Box 976  
North Little Rock, AR 72115  
501-753-5858

Literacy Action of Central Arkansas  
P.O. Box 900  
Little Rock, AR 72203  
501-372-7323



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### **Scott County**

Literacy Council of Western Arkansas  
P.O. Box 423  
Fort Smith, AR 72902  
479-783-2665

### **Searcy County**

Literacy Council of North Central Arkansas  
P.O. Box 187  
Leslie, AR 72645  
870-447-3241

### **Sebastian County**

Literacy Council of Western Arkansas  
P.O. Box 423  
Fort Smith, AR 72902  
479-783-2665

### **Sevier County**

Sevier County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 960  
DeQueen, AR 71832  
870-642-8804

### **Sharp County**

Sharp County Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 63  
Cherokee Village, AR 72525  
870-856-3038

### **St. Francis County**

Literacy Council of St. Francis County  
1700 Newcastle  
Forrest City, AR 72335  
870-633-4480, Ext. 249

### **Stone County**

Literacy Council of North Central Arkansas  
P.O. Box 187  
Leslie, AR 72645  
870-447-3241

### **Union County**

Literacy Council of Union County  
2800 N. College  
El Dorado, AR 71730  
870-864-0101

### **Van Buren County**

Van Buren Literacy Council  
P.O. Box 897  
Clinton, AR 72031  
501-745-6440

### **Washington County**

Ozark Literacy Council  
2596 Keystone Crossing  
Fayetteville, AR 72703  
479-521-8250  
[www.ozarkliteracy.org](http://www.ozarkliteracy.org)

### **White County**

Literacy Council of White County  
113 E. Pleasure Ave.  
Searcy, AR 72143  
501-278-5500

### **Yell County**

Yell County Literacy Council  
501 N. Front  
Dardanelle, AR 72834  
479-229-2993

## Adult Basic Education

Adult basic education programs help adults with reading, writing and math skills at an eighth-grade level or lower. Our teachers will work with you on the skills you need. They can also check for vision and learning problems.

For more about this FREE service, check with your local adult education center or literacy council (see listings). You also may contact the state office.

### State Office

Adult Education Section  
 Arkansas Department of Workforce Education  
 Three Capitol Mall  
 Little Rock, AR 72201  
 501-682-1970  
<http://dwe.arkansas.gov/adult.html>

When James Alexander left school in the eighth grade, he got on the wrong track. He developed a drug addiction, but he has been clean for 16 years and is an encouragement to others to beat their own addictions.

James attended a Job Corps program and moved back to the Little Rock area, where he worked at various industrial plants. He wanted to take the GED Test, but he needed to improve his basic academic skills first.

James studied for three years at the Little Rock Adult Education Center before earning his Arkansas high school diploma. He now works as a forklift operator/supervisor for a manufacturing plant. Most of his personal time is spent overseeing a residential facility for recovering addicts.



"It's not a shame to need better reading, writing and math skills.  
 It's a shame when nothing is done about it."

Adult Education Section  
 Department of Workforce Education



## GED General Educational Development Testing Service

Is lack of a high school diploma keeping you from getting a new job or attending college? The GED Test can help you move on to the next level – whether it's college, technical training or a better job. And it's all FREE.

The Arkansas GED Testing Program serves all Arkansans who are 16 years or older, not enrolled in or graduated from high school, and who meet other state requirements. For more information, check out your local adult education center (see listing of adult education programs) or contact the state office.

### State Office

GED Testing Program  
Arkansas Department of Workforce Education  
Three Capitol Mall, Room 305  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-682-1980  
<http://dwe.arkansas.gov/ged.htm>

**W**hen Ursula Huss, 35, passed the GED Test, she was the first in her family to complete high school. After various low-wage positions including factory work, cashier and clerical, her highest pay was \$8.42 an hour. She enrolled in college after her job was eliminated.

**U**rsula earned an associate degree in May 2004 and is working on a bachelor's degree in accounting. Her goals are to finish her accounting degree, become a CPA, get a doctorate and teach college.

**“T**he best thing I can do for my children, aside from teaching them about God, is to provide better, more advanced opportunities for them,” Ursula says. “The only way I can do that is through education.”



“You can improve your circumstances if you just take it step by step.”

James Alexander  
GED Graduate

## ESL English as a Second Language

It's hard to learn new job skills or improve your education when English is a foreign language. English as a second language (ESL) classes can help. Beginning ESL classes teach speaking and listening skills, while advanced ESL classes teach reading and writing skills. These FREE classes are offered at times that will fit with any work schedule. Tutors at literacy councils work with students one-on-one or sometimes in small groups. Adult education centers offer group classes.

For more information on ESL classes, visit your local adult education center or literacy council (see listings) or contact the state office.

### State Office

ESL Office  
Arkansas Department of Workforce Education  
Three Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-682-1974  
<http://dwe.arkansas.gov/AdultEd/ESL/ESL.html>

**M**arried with children and a new immigrant to this country in 1975, Judy Buihad had to work hard for everything she has.

**C**oming to the United States meant starting over. Judy worked two or three jobs at a time and often had to walk to work. Even though her education was put on hold, she never gave up on her dream of getting a college degree. After her children left home, Judy decided it was her turn. She went to ESL classes and earned her Arkansas high school diploma by taking the GED Test at the Fort Smith Adult Education Center.

**J**udy has now completed her associate's degree in electronics at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith.



"If you want to learn a new language, you can do it by applying yourself. Nobody is responsible for your learning but you."

Sergio Duran  
ESL Student



When he was 18, Jose Sandoval and his brothers and sister left their home in Guatemala to join their mother who had been here nearly 14 years.

Jose's mother had attended the ESL classes offered at the Jones Center for Families through Northwest Technical Institute's Adult Education Center and urged Jose to enroll.

Jose started classes and then went to work at Tyson's. His second-shift job required him to work late, so it was hard for him to juggle his class schedule and work too. He quit going to classes for a while, but the pressures of his job forced him to go back. "It was really hard working and not understanding what they were saying to me," he says.



Learning English helped his job get easier, so Jose focused on learning the language. It took six months before he could speak any English or understand a few words of what people were saying to him. His hard work paid off when Jose was able to transfer to the sanitation shift. Because of the chemicals used on the job, Jose had to know English. All of the labels were in English; if the chemicals were mixed wrong, it could cause toxic gas to form, which would not only have gotten him fired but could have hurt a lot of people.

Jose learned English so well he was promoted to supervisor's assistant. He went from making around \$7 an hour to making almost \$11 an hour. Learning English also helped him use his insurance, open a checking account, get a nice car, and buy a house at the age of 24. Now Jose is going to GED classes.

"Be patient because you are going to be learning little by little. Remember that you need to speak English if you are in this country."

Oscar Gonzalez  
ESL Student



## **WAGE**

### **Workforce Alliance for Growth in the Economy™**

WAGE is a work-based program that helps adults learn the skills needed to get and keep a job. For more information on this FREE program, visit your local WAGE center or contact the state office.

#### **State Office**

Adult Education Section  
Arkansas Department of Workforce Education  
Three Capitol Mall, Room 303  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-682-1815  
<http://dwe.arkansas.gov/AdultEd/WAGE.html>

#### **Local WAGE Centers**

##### **Arkansas County WAGE Program**

2501 S. Main St.  
Stuttgart, AR 72160  
870-673-2802

##### **Desha County WAGE Program**

Caller 8880  
Dumas, AR 71639  
870-382-2157

##### **Bradley County WAGE Program**

800 N. Walnut  
Warren, AR 71671  
870-226-6920

##### **Drew County WAGE Program**

809 Hwy. 278 East  
Monticello, AR 71655  
870-367-4070

##### **Columbia County WAGE Program**

P.O. Box 1440  
Magnolia, AR 71753  
870-234-6064

##### **Faulkner County WAGE Program**

Wren Corner, Suite 110  
Siebenmorgan Road  
Conway, AR 72032  
501-730-9868

##### **Crawford County WAGE Program**

605 Alma Blvd.  
Van Buren, AR 72956  
479-471-0019

##### **Garland County WAGE Program**

101 College Drive  
Hot Springs, AR 71913  
501-321-2744

##### **Crittenden County WAGE Program**

2000 W. Broadway  
West Memphis, AR 72301  
870-733-6760

##### **Hempstead County WAGE Program**

117 E. Second St.  
Hope, AR 71801  
870-722-2744

**Hot Spring County WAGE Program**

1735 E. Sullenberger  
 Malvern, AR 72104  
 501-332-5002

**Jefferson County WAGE Program**

1900 Hazel St.  
 Pine Bluff, AR 71603  
 870-850-8707

**Lonoke County WAGE Program**

P.O. Box 147  
 Lonoke, AR 72086  
 501-676-7073

**Miller County WAGE Program**

3512 Grand Ave.  
 Texarkana, AR 71854  
 870-774-4414

**Pope County WAGE Program**

104 S. Rochester, Suite 1  
 Russellville, AR 72811  
 479-890-0118

**Pulaski County WAGE Program**

4300 Haywood St.  
 North Little Rock, AR 72117  
 501-945-6055

**Randolph County WAGE Center**

P.O. Box 468  
 Pocahontas, AR 72455  
 870-248-4000, Ext. 4130

**Sebastian County WAGE Program**

501 S. 20th St.  
 Fort Smith, AR 72901  
 479-782-7196

**Sevier County WAGE Program**

P.O. Box 960  
 DeQueen, AR 71832  
 870-584-4471

**Union County WAGE Program**

P.O. Box 7010  
 El Dorado, AR 71731-7010  
 870-862-8131, Ext. 182

Against his mother's advice, 16-year-old Jackie Galbreath quit school. Education just wasn't important to him at the time.

Fortunately, Jackie found a job with a power tool company. But years later, the company moved out of the country, leaving Jackie unemployed. With no education and at the age of 46, Jackie thought it would be difficult for him to find a job that would support his family. He enrolled in adult education courses at Black River Technical College and earned his Arkansas high school diploma.

But Jackie didn't stop there. He completed the WAGE industrial certification as well as a one-year course in industrial electricity. His technical training landed him a good job with a company in Pocahontas.





# **Section III:**

## **Training Programs, Colleges and Universities**



**TRAINING PROGRAMS, COLLEGES  
AND UNIVERSITIES**



## Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are training programs that prepare workers for jobs in one of more than 800 skilled trades or crafts. An apprenticeship – which may last from one to six years, depending on the program – combines classroom instruction with paid, on-the-job training under the supervision of experienced workers. Upon finishing the program, the apprentice is awarded a certificate of completion.

Statistics show that workers who have completed an apprenticeship program earn higher wages, have more stable work records and are promoted sooner and more often than workers who did not go through an apprenticeship program. For more information about the apprenticeship program, contact the state office.

### State Office

State Apprenticeship Office  
Arkansas Department of Workforce Education  
Three Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201-1083  
501-682-1360  
[dwe.arkansas.gov/Apprenticeship/apprenticeshipindex.html](http://dwe.arkansas.gov/Apprenticeship/apprenticeshipindex.html)

## Technical Institutes

Many programs at Arkansas' technical institutes can be completed in just one year of study. These accredited programs are open to anyone age 17 or older. Some require a high school diploma or GED. Classes are available on both a full-time or part-time basis.

### **Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute**

1620 Newcastle Road  
Forrest City, AR 72336-0925  
870-633-5411  
[www.crti.tec.ar.us](http://www.crti.tec.ar.us)

Crowley's Ridge offers a number of industry-certified programs both at the campus and through on-site training. Most programs can be completed in 11 months. It also provides child care on a first-come first-served basis at its state-licensed facility.

### **Northwest Technical Institute**

709 S. Old Missouri Road  
Springdale, AR 72764  
479-751-8824  
[www.nti.tec.ar.us](http://www.nti.tec.ar.us)

NTI offers industry certifications and an associate of applied science degree. Its financial aid office helps students with grants, loans and scholarships. Students attending NTI can take some of their courses online. NTI also offers adult education courses, including basic skills, GED and ESL classes.

**K**atherine Parish had a hard time all through grade school and quit after the eighth grade. She married, raised her family and worked a factory job.

**I**n 1989, Katherine began working with a literacy tutor just to build her skills and prove to herself that she could learn. Three years later, she enrolled in GED classes at Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute. A learning disability that went undiagnosed until late in her life robbed Katherine of self-confidence in her ability to learn. At the age of 62, through years of determination while battling health and personal issues, Katherine earned her Arkansas high school diploma.





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### **Riverside Vocational Technical School**

P.O. Box 600

Grady, AR 1644-0600

870-479-3871

[www.riversidevtech.org](http://www.riversidevtech.org)

Riverside offers many opportunities for incarcerated individuals to develop job skills that will help them succeed in a career field. The vocational and technical courses have been selected through research of labor market trends, statistical data and industry and business partnerships.

"Never lose hope that there is a better future."

Alejandra Reyes  
GED Graduate

## Public Colleges

### Arkansas Northeastern College

Main Campus

2501 S. Division St.

Blytheville, AR 72315

870-762-1020

[www.anc.edu](http://www.anc.edu)

ANC has an Educational Opportunity Center that helps adults 19 and older return to education in college, vo-tech, specialized school or a GED program. The center primarily serves displaced or underemployed workers. It offers child care information; tutoring and mentoring; membership to the Adult Student Association; help with career tests, registration, and job-shadowing opportunities; and workshops on ASSET/ACT preparation, study skills, time management, budgeting and assertiveness skills. ANC offers a variety of scholarships for students.

Branch campuses:

#### Ark-Mo Center

405 405 Park St.

Blytheville, AR 72315

870-763-1020

#### CRISP Center

4123 E. Hwy. 18

Blytheville, AR 72315

870-763-6222

A mother of four, grandmother of 12, and great-grandmother of two, Belvia Wilkins earned her Arkansas high school diploma many years ago. But when her husband and parents died in 1996, she decided to go to college.

Belvia not only earned her college degree in psychology and social work but graduated magna cum laude. While attending college, she was active in student government and served as the editor of the school's literary magazine – proving that age is not a barrier to college activities.





**Moore Center**

500 W. Chickasawba  
Blytheville, AR 72315  
870-762-1020, Ext. 1192

**Paragould Center**

1032 W. Kings Hwy.  
Paragould, AR 72451  
870-239-3200

**Leachville Center**

105 N. Main St.  
Leachville, AR 72438  
870-539-2393, 870-762-1020, Ext. 1400

**Osceola Center**

2868 W. Semmes St.  
Osceola, AR 72370  
870-563-3236

**Arkansas State University – Beebe**

North Palm & Iowa St.  
Beebe, AR 72012  
501-882-3600  
[www.asub.edu](http://www.asub.edu)

ASU-Beebe provides extensive support services to students, many of which meet the specific needs and concerns of adults/working adults. Services include a job placement office. An Employment and Training Program is offered to adults on the Searcy campus. Several government-funded support programs are offered by various agencies to help adult students with subsistence issues such as payment of energy bills.

Branch campuses:

**ASU – Heber Springs**

71 Cleburne Park Road  
Heber Springs, AR 72543  
501-250-9900  
[www.hebersprings.asub.edu/hebersprings](http://www.hebersprings.asub.edu/hebersprings)

**ASU – Searcy**

1800 E. Moore Ave.  
Searcy, AR 72143  
501-207-4014  
<http://searcy.asub.edu/searcy>



### **Arkansas State University Mountain Home**

1600 S. College St.

Mountain Home, AR 72653

870-508-6100

[www.asumh.edu](http://www.asumh.edu)

ASU Mountain Home has a new support service for students called ANTS (Association of Nontraditional Students). This group builds networks and gives students 25 years and older a sense of belonging. The National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) also meets on the Mountain Home campus. The nursing and criminal justice students are involved with NAMI, and some are being trained as group facilitators. The school also has a coordinator for teacher education who focuses on advising and preparing students for admission into four-year universities. The Anderson-Downs scholarship pays the entire cost for selected students to pursue a practical or registered nursing certificate or degree. Beltone offers scholarships for providers in its network to pursue a degree in hearing healthcare.

### **Arkansas State University – Newport**

7648 Victory Blvd.

Newport, AR 72112

870-512-7800

[www.asun.edu](http://www.asun.edu)

The ASU-Newport Student Emergency Fund was established to provide one-time educational assistance to students who have an economic need that has the potential of interfering with the completion of the semester. The fund, set up in November 2002, has helped 53 students to date. Other financial assistance includes the NEA Higher Education Charitable Foundation, Ambassador Scholarship program through Medallion Foods, Brunner scholarship for aviation students and an endowed scholarship through Jane Pratt.

### **Black River Technical College**

1410 Hwy. 304 East

Pocahontas, AR 72455

870-248-4000

[www.blackrivertech.edu](http://www.blackrivertech.edu)

Black River offers various scholarships that are available in the fall and spring semesters. Career planning personnel work closely with area business and industry to locate potential employment for Black River graduates. The Office of the Coordinator of Student Recruitment offers a range of services to current students and alumni in career decision making and the job-search process.

Branch campus:

**BRTC – Paragould**

2402 N. 12th Ave.

Paragould, AR 72450

870-239-0969

**Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas**

183 Hwy. 399

DeQueen, AR 71832

870-584-4471, 800-844-4471

[www.cccua.edu](http://www.cccua.edu)

CCCUA has a child care facility on its DeQueen campus and one planned for its Ashdown site. It also has two mobile computer labs – one for testing and one for noncredit computer classes. The college has a placement office that helps find jobs for students and graduates. CCCUA also has funding for the College Migrant Assistance Program (CAMP), the only one in the state. CAMP is a federally funded program geared toward migrant students. The college offers discounts to military personnel or those honorably discharged and their dependents or spouses.

Extension sites:

**CCUA – Nashville**

415 N. Fourth St.

Nashville, AR 71852

870-845-2454

**J**ulie Fought is a mother of four who put her dreams of a college education on hold for the past 19 years. “This past year, I decided it was time to fulfill my dream,” Julie says.

**E**astern Arkansas Community College has been a dream come true for her. She says the staff and teachers are warm and caring, and their influence has inspired her to take her education to the highest level. “I’ll be the first in my family to obtain a college education,” Julie adds. “I want my children to know how essential education is, and that means I must lead by example.”

**J**ulie is in the honors program at EACC and has been named to both the President’s and Dean’s List. She plans to go on for a doctorate in history.



**CCUA – Ashdown**

1411 Constitution Ave.  
Ashdown, AR 71822  
870-898-4733

**East Arkansas Community College**

1700 Newcastle Road  
Forrest City, AR 72335  
870-633-4480

[www.eacc.edu](http://www.eacc.edu)

East Arkansas hosts the Eastern Arkansas Literacy Project, which includes teaching English as a second language and Even Start, a family literacy program. Even Start provides a parent and child training (PACT) program for adults. East Arkansas has a scholarship for nontraditional students that is awarded annually. It is presented to a full-time sophomore student who is 25 years or older. The student must have and maintain a grade point average of 3.0 in any major.

**Mid-South Community College**

2000 W. Broadway  
West Memphis, AR 72301  
870-733-6722

[www.midsouthcc.edu](http://www.midsouthcc.edu)

Mid-South has a Career Services Program that helps students with career identification, résumé preparation, interview skills and job placement. The college also has public bus service available in the day and evening. Students currently are provided bus passes through a grant. The Thomas Goldsby Education Opportunity Award, endowed by a local philanthropist, provides up to \$600 per semester toward tuition and fees to students who do not qualify for the Pell grant. This award is available to 40 applicants each semester. This program is unique in that it provides financial aid for a large number of students who, because they work, are ineligible for federal grants.

**National Park Community College**

101 College Drive  
Hot Springs, AR 71913  
501-760-4222, 800-760-1825

[www.npcc.edu](http://www.npcc.edu)

National Park's Career Center is open to all students at no cost. It provides assessment, employability services and job referrals. It also has materials to assist with job-search activities, including Internet access. Current job referrals are listed weekly, and there are opportunities for on-campus interviews with area employers. The Career Center sponsors an annual job fair each spring. National Park's

accredited Child Development Center is designed for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years. The center is used as a laboratory training center for early childhood education students. Children are accepted on both a full-time and part-time basis. The college also offers a GED scholarship for students.

### **North Arkansas College**

1515 Pioneer Drive  
Harrison, AR 72601  
870-743-3000  
[www.northark.edu](http://www.northark.edu)

A public trolley runs by North Arkansas College during the daytime, stopping at the college every two hours from 7:50 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. Northark's Educational Opportunity Center helps adults 19+ who would be first-generation college students gain admission to college and find financial aid. Services include academic advice, career counseling, guidance on secondary re-entry or entry to a GED program and help with completing college admission and financial aid applications.

### **NorthWest Arkansas Community College**

One College Drive  
Bentonville, AR 72712-5091  
479-636-9222  
[www.nwacc.edu](http://www.nwacc.edu)

NWACC's Career Services helps students explore career options and develop individual career plans. The center will help assess the student's skills, values and interests and match those assessments to educational and occupational goals.

**E**ddie Gatlin, 47, is married with one son. He attended college one year following high school and held various jobs for several years.

**W**hen Eddie was unemployed in 2001, he re-enrolled in college. He earned his associate degree, then a bachelor's degree (the first in his family to do so) in early childhood education in May 2004. That fall, he began teaching fourth grade in Van Buren.





### **Ouachita Technical College**

One College Circle

Malvern, AR 72104

501-337-5000, 800-337-0266

[www.otcweb.edu](http://www.otcweb.edu)

Ouachita is setting up a fund to provide child care vouchers to needy college students. Through its adult education department, Ouachita offers an off-campus child care program for infants and toddlers that is funded through a federal Even Start grant. This program works hand-in-hand with Head Start to provide parenting education for low-income families. The SCAT bus provides public transportation to the college in the day and evening. Ouachita offers many online services for students, including orientation, registration, grades, unofficial transcripts, financial aid information and degree audits. Students are encouraged to make use of career services assessment through Kuder. Job openings are posted on campus, and an annual job fair is held in March of each year. The Summer Bridge Program, which consists of three weeks of intensive educational review for students, helps prepare students for college-level classes. Students in this program begin forming a support system before classes begin in the fall. The First Year Interest Groups program places students, who are in two or more developmental classes, in a support group setting. This program has been expanded to include some college-level classes. Ouachita also offers several scholarships.

### **Ozarka College**

(Main Campus)

218 College Drive

Melbourne, AR 72556

870-368-7371

[www.ozarka.edu](http://www.ozarka.edu)

Ozarka College has DHS-licensed child care facilities on campus that can care for 42 children ranging in age from 6 weeks to 5 years. The Ozarka College Foundation provides scholarships, loans and work study for nontraditional students who need assistance to complete the semester. Ozarka hosts a federally funded program that offers tutoring, career counseling and other services to eligible students. Ozarka College also has an adult education department in which students can study for the GED or improve basic skills. Other student services include My.Ozarka.edu, a student data portal, and computer labs where students may access the Internet and library research tools. When businesses close in the area, Ozarka forms a team to visit those who will lose their jobs due to the closure and offer career counseling, testing and financial aid advisement on site. The college works with local agencies to help students with transportation, child care and housing. Ozarka offers noncredit courses that provide continuing education credit for a variety of professionals in the area. Workforce Investment Grants are available for special assistance for those 25 years and older.

Branch campuses:

**Ash Flat Campus**

64 College Drive  
Ash Flat, AR 72513  
870-994-7273

**Mountain View Campus**

1005 Maple Drive  
Mountain View, AR 72560  
870-269-5600

**Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas**

(Helena Campus)

Campus Drive  
Helena, AR 72342  
870-338-6474

[www.pccua.edu](http://www.pccua.edu)

Phillips Community College provides career services that guide students through the process of identifying career interests and skills, offer information about the many career choices and include personalized career counseling. Its multimedia resource center includes a lending library with career-related books, job-seeking skills workshops and assistance with full- and part-time job placement. Phillips also provides assistance with admissions, academic advisement, counseling, financial aid, student activities and placement.

Branch campuses:

**DeWitt Campus**

1210 Ricebelt Ave., Hwy. 165  
DeWitt, AR 72042  
870-946-3506

**Stuttgart Campus**

2807 Hwy. 165 South  
Stuttgart, AR 72160  
870-673-4201



## **Pulaski Technical College**

(Main Campus)

3000 W. Scenic Drive

North Little Rock, AR 72118

501-812-2200

[www.pulaskitech.edu](http://www.pulaskitech.edu)

Children First of Pulaski Technical College is a full-service child development center for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years. The Central Arkansas Transit Authority provides weekday, evening and Saturday bus service to Pulaski Tech with 92 stops per day. Most of Pulaski Tech's services are geared toward older students, including the online application for admission, online orientation, online tutoring services, financial aid, tuition management services (payment system) and services for single parents and displaced workers. Pulaski Tech offers career services for students, including interest assessment (the Discover program), career counseling and an online job bank. Pulaski Tech also provides tuition waiver scholarships for GED recipients achieving a score of 600 and higher. A few private organizations provide scholarship funding for adults and working students.

Branch campuses:

### **Aviation Maintenance Technology Center**

1600 W. Maryland Ave.

North Little Rock, AR 72120

501-835-5420

### **Business and Industry Center**

3303 E. Roosevelt Road

Little Rock, AR 72206

501-907-6670

### **Little Rock Campus**

8901 Kanis Road

Little Rock, AR 72205

501-683-5240

### **Maumelle Education Center**

(Campus of Academics plus Charter School)

900 Edgewood Drive

Maumelle, AR 72113

501-812-2214

### **Saline County Adult Education Center**

16936 I-30

Benton, AR 72015

501-778-3235

### Saline County Career Center

3199 S. Reynolds Road  
Bauxite, AR 72011  
501-602-2420

### Rich Mountain Community College

1100 College Drive  
Mena, AR 71953  
479-394-7622  
[www.rmcc.edu](http://www.rmcc.edu)

Rich Mountain has an Educational Opportunity Center that provides services to students who are at least 19 years old and who are from low-income families or are first-generation college students. The center offers assistance and information on financial aid, academic issues and the admissions process. The center gives assessment tests to determine an individual's educational placement level. Rich Mountain awards several scholarships, including a GED scholarship. In addition to providing skills-based short courses, the Rich Mountain Workforce Training Center posts local job opportunities and connects potential employees with area industries. The adult basic education program offers free pre-employment training skills workshops for local residents.

Lorri Carmack graduated from high school in 1982 and went to college for a year. Then marriage and family sidetracked her education. Although she took a few classes over the years, she didn't fully commit to getting a college degree until 18 years later.

While working full time at U.S. Motors in Mena, Lorri attended classes at night at Rich Mountain Community College, where she earned an associate degree. She then enrolled in the Henderson State University teacher education program, driving back and forth from Mena to Arkadelphia for two years – more than 70 miles each way – to complete her bachelor's degree in early childhood education. At the same time, she was serving as both mom and dad to her two sons while her husband was serving in Iraq with the 39th Brigade of the Arkansas National Guard.



Lorri's hard work and dedication is paying off. She works as a second-grade teacher at a school close to her home. But she's not finished with her education yet. Lorri is now working on a master's degree in special education.



### **South Arkansas Community College**

300 S. West Ave.

El Dorado, AR 71730

870- 864-7195, 800-955-2289

[www.southark.edu](http://www.southark.edu)

Southark maintains job boards on both campuses where open positions are posted regularly. Placement services for students and members of the community are coordinated through SouthWorks Job Placement Office on the East Campus. The El Dorado campus has public transportation. Southark offers a GED scholarship, which is given to any first-time entering college student who has achieved a score of at least 610 on the GED Test – a score that places him or her in the top 10 percent nationwide. This scholarship provides full tuition; recipients must enroll in at least 15 semester hours during the fall and spring terms.

Branch campus:

#### **SACC East Campus**

3696 E. Main St.

El Dorado, AR 71730

870-862-4926

### **Southeast Arkansas College**

1900 Hazel St.

Pine Bluff, AR 71603

870-543-5900

[www.seark.edu](http://www.seark.edu)

SEARK has public transportation to the college during the day. It has a job placement service for students who are seeking employment through the Career Services Center. The center helps students relate their personal qualities, education and experience to job requirements; helps students search for employment and assists employers in placing students in part-time and career positions. SEARK also has a unique program, the Career Pathways project, through which it guides participants to work or to one of the college's certificate or degree programs. (A career pathway is a series of connected courses with internship work experience and enhanced student services that enable students to upgrade their skills and combine school and work to advance over time to better jobs and higher levels of education and training.) SEARK also has a nontraditional student scholarship; recipients must be at least 25 years old and not eligible for large Pell grants.





### **Southern Arkansas University Tech**

100 Carr Road

Camden, AR 71701

870-574-4500

[www.sautech.edu](http://www.sautech.edu)

The Career Services Center at SAU Tech was established to provide career planning and placement services to current and prospective students. The center advises students in the technical program areas and offers career counseling to help students assess current career goals, make workforce transitions or clarify career interests. SAU Tech also has Career Connections, a placement system that connects students with employers. Students can register online and post a resume, cover letter and portfolio that can be viewed by employers. Students also may search current positions and apply for positions online.

**T**he youngest of 18 children (both adopted and biological), Edith Moss graduated from Batesville High School in 1991 and worked at the Montessori School and at a local factory for several years. She attended the University of Arkansas Community College but interrupted her education to get married and start a family.

**N**ine years later, Edith returned to college. But it wasn't easy. Besides attending classes full time, she worked 20 hours a week in the development office at UACCB on a work-study program and worked another 20 hours a week as a waitress. Despite all the demands on her time, Edith made the Chancellor's List and earned an associate degree in May 2005. She was the first in her family to earn a college degree.



**B**ut Edith didn't quit there. Her future includes more courses at UACCB. She uses her experience to encourage her children to do well in school. "I tell them . . . that they need an education to do well in life," she says.





**University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville**

2005 White Drive

Batesville, AR 72501

870-793-7581, 800-508-7878

[www.uaccb.edu](http://www.uaccb.edu)

UACCB offers work study and part-time positions to students through its financial aid office.

**University of Arkansas Community College at Hope**

2500 S. Main St.

Hope, AR 71802

870-777-5722

[www.uacch.edu](http://www.uacch.edu)

UACCH has job placement/career counseling for adults/working adults and provides interest/ability testing for students.

**University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton**

One Bruce St.

Morrilton, AR 72110

501-977-2000, 800-264-1094

[www.uaccm.edu](http://www.uaccm.edu)

UACCM offers child care services at the Earle Love Child Study Center, which is operated by the early childhood staff and students enrolled in the early childhood development program. Students pay a weekly fee for enrolling children ages 6 weeks to 5 years. The center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. UACCM also has job-placement assistance for students; the career counselor has a list of potential jobs, both part-time and full-time.

“With stronger English language skills, Arkansas’ newest immigrants will become more effective workers, parents and citizens in their communities.”

Dr. Philip Less  
Arkansas ESL Program Advisor



## Public Universities

### **Arkansas State University**

P.O. Box 0010  
State University, AR 72467  
870-972-2100  
[www.astate.edu](http://www.astate.edu)

### **Arkansas Tech University**

1509 N. Boulder Ave.  
Russellville, AR 72801  
479-968-0389  
[www.atu.edu](http://www.atu.edu)

### **Henderson State University**

1100 Henderson St.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71999  
870-230-5000  
[www.hsu.edu](http://www.hsu.edu)

### **Southern Arkansas University**

100 E. University  
Magnolia, AR 71753  
870-235-4000  
[www.saumag.edu](http://www.saumag.edu)

### **University of Arkansas at Fayetteville**

425 Administration Building  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
479-575-2000  
[www.uark.edu](http://www.uark.edu)

### **University of Arkansas at Fort Smith**

5210 Grand Ave.  
Fort Smith, AR 72913  
479-788-7000  
[www.uafortsmith.edu](http://www.uafortsmith.edu)

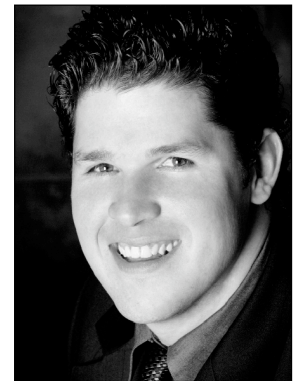
### **University of Arkansas at Little Rock**

2801 S. University  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
501-569-3000  
[www.ualr.edu](http://www.ualr.edu)

Adult students entering college for the first time or returning to complete a degree receive personal assistance from UALR's Adult Student Advocacy program. The staff provides individual assistance with the admission and application process and information about other resources and opportunities available to UALR students. Student success is enhanced by an ongoing support system and mentoring program.

**B**ryan LaRue overcame many hurdles before coming to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock as a music voice major. He dropped out of high school in the 11th grade and got his GED so he could work to help his mother. While recovering from a serious on-the-job injury, Bryan decided to go to UALR.

**H**e has since performed in several UALR productions and been asked to sing with the Memphis Opera. He has sung the national anthem at several Trojan basketball games, and he hopes to take the lead in a UALR production in a celebration of Mozart's 250th birthday.



### **University of Arkansas at Monticello**

P.O. Box 3596  
Monticello, AR 71656  
870-460-1026  
[www.uamont.edu](http://www.uamont.edu)

### **University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff**

1200 N. University Drive  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-575-8000  
[www.uapb.edu](http://www.uapb.edu)

### University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

4301 W. Markham  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501-686-5000  
[www.uams.edu](http://www.uams.edu)

**D**r. Patricia McGarry – or “Dr. Pat” as her patients call her – owns and practices at Salem Family Practice Clinic in Benton. She would be the first to admit that becoming a doctor was not easy for a teenage mom with no high school diploma.

**P**atricia completed her GED at night at the home of a friend from her church choir who worked for the Department of Education. (With four little boys, going to a classroom was not an option.) After completing her GED and with her oldest son not even 7, Patricia enrolled in a hospital-based nursing school. While studying nursing, she realized she could offer a more caring and nurturing way of treating patients as a doctor.



**O**ften taking only one class at a time, Patricia spent the next 10 years in pre-med classes. Before completing the requirements for a college degree, Patricia was accepted into medical school. When she received her doctorate of medicine at the age of 44, it was her first official degree diploma.

### University of Central Arkansas

201 Donaghey Ave.  
Conway, AR 72035-0001  
501-450-5000  
[www.uca.edu](http://www.uca.edu)

All first-year nontraditional students are assigned an academic advisor in the Academic Advising Center. Throughout the school year, the UCA Counseling Center offers programs on academic and emotional/support issues encountered by nontraditional students. A Web site specifically for nontraditional students is nearing completion. Linked from the Academic Advising Center home page, the site will include information on or links to such topics as financial aid for nontraditional students, community services, ways to locate housing in the area

and academic support services. A special orientation session for nontraditional students has been added to UCA's Welcome Week schedule. It features a panel of faculty and staff from different programs and offices. Many nontraditional students enter UCA through University College (UC) or enroll in transitional (developmental) courses that are housed within UC. This program is fairly unique in Arkansas in that developmental courses and faculty teaching these courses are housed within one "department." Students who do not meet the requirements for full admission to UCA can begin their studies as a "conditionally admitted" student through UC.

As a husband and the father of two with a third on the way, Michael Fahrenwald has his feet on the ground but his eyes on the stars. He received an award as the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's outstanding graduating senior in the physics program after spending 18 months researching high-energy gamma ray astronomy by analyzing data taken from a telescope in Arizona.

Michael plans to begin work on a master's degree in applied physics at UALR.



## Independent Colleges and Universities in Arkansas

### **Arkansas Baptist College**

1600 Bishop St.  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
501-374-7856  
[www.arbaptcol.edu](http://www.arbaptcol.edu)

### **Harding University**

900 E. Center  
Searcy, AR 72149  
501-279-4000  
[www.harding.edu](http://www.harding.edu)

### **Central Baptist College**

1501 College Ave.  
Conway, AR 72034  
501-329-6872  
[www.cbc.edu](http://www.cbc.edu)

### **Hendrix College**

1600 Washington Ave.  
Conway, AR 72032  
501-329-6811  
[www.hendrix.edu](http://www.hendrix.edu)

### **Crowley's Ridge College**

100 College Drive  
Paragould, AR 72450  
870-236-6901  
[www.crowleysridgecollege.edu](http://www.crowleysridgecollege.edu)

### **John Brown University**

2000 W. University St.  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761  
479-524-9500  
[www.jbu.edu](http://www.jbu.edu)

**A**fter graduating from high school in 1982, Tracy Crane worked in factories and industrial plants. But then this wife and mother of two decided she wanted a brighter future for herself and her family.

**T**racy enrolled in a technical school in spring 1999 and then entered college as a full-time student the next semester. She earned a bachelor's degree in accounting in May 2004 and began work the next month with S.R. Ludington & Co., a Fort Smith accounting firm.

**"A** bachelor's degree is an open doorway into management," Tracy says, "which I prefer to wearing a uniform with my name on the pocket."





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**Lyon College**

2300 Highland Road  
Batesville, AR 72503  
870-793-9813  
[www.lyon.edu](http://www.lyon.edu)

**Ouachita Baptist University**

410 Ouachita St.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71998  
870-245-5000  
[www.obu.edu](http://www.obu.edu)

**Philander Smith College**

812 W. 13th St.  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
501-375-9845  
[www.philander.edu](http://www.philander.edu)

**University of the Ozarks**

415 N. College Ave.  
Clarksville, AR 72830  
479-979-1000  
[www.ozarks.edu](http://www.ozarks.edu)

**Williams Baptist College**

60 W. Fulbright Ave.  
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476  
870-886-6741  
[www.wbcoll.edu](http://www.wbcoll.edu)



## Educational Opportunity Centers

The Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) is a federal program funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

Its mission is

- To provide financial and academic information to individuals who want to further their education at ANY educational institution
- To provide assistance in applying for admission and financial aid

Participation does not require full-time enrollment.

### Eligibility

To be eligible a participant must

- Be a U.S. citizen or meet U.S. citizen status requirements
- Be 19 years or older
- Have a desire to go back to school
- Live in the target area of a college or university providing the EOC

And preferably meet one of these requirements

- Low-income (levels determined by taxable income)
- Neither parent completed a four-year college degree

### Services

(Not all services are available at each location.)

- Information about opportunities for postsecondary education and training
- Academic advice and assistance in course selection
- Help in completing college admission and financial aid applications
- Help in preparing for college entrance exams
- Guidance in completing a General Educational Development (GED) Test for those who have not received their high school diploma
- Personal counseling
- Tutoring
- Career workshops and counseling
- Mentoring programs

### Location of EOCs in Arkansas

#### Arkansas Northeastern College

2501 S. Division St.  
Blytheville, AR 72315  
870-762-1020  
[www.anc.edu](http://www.anc.edu)





**Henderson State University**

1100 Henderson St.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71999  
870-230-5028, 800-228-7333  
[www.hsu.edu](http://www.hsu.edu)

**North Arkansas College**

1500 Pioneer Drive  
Harrison, AR 72601  
870-743-3000  
<http://www.northark.edu>

**Ouachita Baptist University**

410 Ouachita St.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
870-245-5000, 800-DIAL-OB  
[www.obu.edu](http://www.obu.edu)

**Rich Mountain Community College**

1100 College Drive  
Mena, AR 71953  
479-394-7622  
[www.rmcc.edu](http://www.rmcc.edu)

**University of Arkansas at Little Rock**

2801 S. University Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
501-569-3000  
[www.ualr.edu](http://www.ualr.edu)

# Section IV:

## Workforce Services





## Department of Workforce Services

### (formerly the Arkansas Employment Security Department)

The Department of Workforce Services takes pride in being Arkansas' provider of choice for employment services. From matching employers with job seekers to providing labor market information, DWS' mission is to provide quality service.

Its services include:

#### Employment Services

- Linking employers with qualified job applicants
- New Hire Registry
- Governor's Dislocated Worker Task Force
- Trade Adjustment Assistance – provides training funds for workers who are dislocated because of foreign competition
- Helping Transitional Employment Assistance clients find jobs

#### Unemployment Insurance

- Online unemployment insurance tax filing, wage reporting and payments
- Magnetic media wage reporting
- Arkansas employment security law
- ArkLine – telephone unemployment claim reporting system
- EZ-ARK – Web-based unemployment claim filing system

#### Labor Market Information

- Arkansas labor force statistics
- Short- and long-term industrial and occupational trends
- Covered employment and earnings
- *Career Watch* magazine
- *Discover Arkansas* Web site

For more information, go to [www.arkansas.gov/esd](http://www.arkansas.gov/esd).

**DWS is an Arkansas Workforce Center partner. DWS offices at the following locations are located in Workforce Centers:**

Arkadelphia	Hot Springs
Batesville	Jonesboro
Benton	Little Rock – Employment Services
Camden	Magnolia
Conway	Malvern
El Dorado	Mountain Home
Fayetteville	Newport
Forrest City	Rogers
Fort Smith	Russellville
Harrison	Texarkana is located in a Texas Workforce Center.
Hope	



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**The following DWS offices stand alone:**

**Blytheville Office**

111 E. Ash St.  
Blytheville, AR 72315  
870-762-2035

**Danville – Outreach Office**

DHS Building  
818 M St./Hwy. 10 East  
Danville, AR 72833  
479-495-2233

**Helena Office**

413 Cherry St.  
Helena, AR 72342  
870-338-7415

**Jacksonville Office**

Two Crestview Plaza  
Jacksonville, AR 72076  
501-982-3835

**Little Rock Midtown Office**

(Unemployment Insurance)  
125 W. Fourth St.  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-682-8030

**Mena Office**

Northside Shopping Center  
601C Hwy. 71 North  
Mena, AR 71953  
479-394-3060

**Monticello Office**

477 S. Main St.  
Monticello, AR 71655  
870-367-2476

**Paragould Office**

400 E. Kings Highway  
Paragould, AR 72450  
870-236-8512

**Pine Bluff Office**

1001 S. Tennessee St.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-534-1920

**Searcy Office**

501 W. Arch Ave.  
Searcy, AR 72143  
501-268-8601

**Siloam Springs Outreach Office**

151 Hwy. 412 East, Suite C  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761  
479-524-5181

**Walnut Ridge Office**

116 W. Elm St.  
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476  
870-886-3556

**West Memphis Office**

202 Shoppingway, Suite A  
West Memphis, AR 72301  
870-400-2269



## Arkansas Workforce Center System

Arkansas' "one-stop" workforce centers were created to bring all the workforce resources – employment, training, education and support services – under one roof so employers and job seekers don't have to run all over the county to get the help they need.

Workforce centers, set up in 10 Local Workforce Investment Areas throughout the state, were designed by employers for employers to help find and train qualified workers. The centers, which answer to the Arkansas Workforce Investment Board, also help workers find jobs in business and industry.

To use this directory, look for your county listed under one of the 10 Workforce Investment Areas and then find the center closest to you. The centers marked with an asterisk are comprehensive locations.

### Central Arkansas Workforce Investment Area (Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe, Pulaski, Prairie, Saline Counties)

#### Arkansas Workforce Center at Benton

309 Southeast St.  
Benton, AR 72015  
501-315-7702

#### Arkansas Workforce Center at Brinkley

1116 N. Main St.  
Brinkley, AR 72021  
870-734-3374

#### Arkansas Workforce Center at Conway

1500 N. Museum Road  
Conway, AR 72032  
501-730-9865

#### Arkansas Workforce Center at Lonoke\*

115 Jefferson St.  
Lonoke, AR 72086  
501-676-2721

#### Arkansas Workforce Center at North Little Rock

1333 Main St.  
North Little Rock, AR 72114  
501-376-4119



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## **Eastern Arkansas Workforce Investment Area (Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Phillips, St. Francis Counties)**

### **Arkansas Workforce Center at Forrest City\***

2615 S. Washington  
Forrest City, AR 72336  
870-633-2900

### **Arkansas Workforce Center at Helena**

312 Rightor  
Helena, AR 72342  
870-338-7955

### **Arkansas Workforce Center at Marianna**

58 Main St.  
Marianna, AR 72360  
870-295-9529

### **Arkansas Workforce Center at West Memphis\***

260 Shoppingway Blvd.  
West Memphis, AR 72301  
870-735-6730

### **Arkansas Workforce Center at Wynne**

1792 N. Falls Blvd., Suite 5  
Wynne, AR 72396  
870-238-3117

## **Little Rock Arkansas Workforce Investment Area**

### **Arkansas Workforce Center at Little Rock\***

University Mall, Suite M03A  
300 S. University Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501-682-7719

## **North Central Arkansas Workforce Investment Area (Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, White, Woodruff Counties)**

### **Arkansas Workforce Center at Ash Flat**

980 Ash Flat Drive  
Ash Flat, AR 72513  
870-994-7353

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-**Arkansas Workforce Center at Augusta**

721 E. Hwy. 64  
Augusta, AR 72006  
870-347-2911

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Batesville\***

398 Barnett Drive  
Batesville, AR 72501  
870-612-8163

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Clinton**

Northside Shopping Center  
Hwy. 65 B  
Clinton, AR 72031  
501-745-8485

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Heber Springs**

71 Cleburne Park Road  
Heber Springs, AR 72543  
501-250-9915

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Melbourne**

Hwy. 69 South  
Melbourne, AR 72556  
870-368-4329

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Mountain View**

210 School Ave.  
Mountain View, AR 72560  
870-269-4070

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Newport**

401 Walnut St.  
Newport, AR 72112  
870-523-3641

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Salem**

146 Pickren St.  
Salem, AR 72576  
870-895-3628

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Searcy**

2707 E. Moore  
Searcy, AR 72143  
501-268-6650



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**Northeast Arkansas Workforce Investment Area**  
(Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence,  
Mississippi, Poinsett, Randolph Counties)

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Blytheville**

545 N. 10th St.  
Blytheville, AR 72315  
870-762-5365

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Jonesboro\***

Arkansas Services Center  
2920 McClellan Drive  
Jonesboro, AR 72401  
870-910-8129

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Paragould**

5 Market Place  
Paragould, AR 72450  
870-236-9950

**Northwest Arkansas Workforce Investment Area**  
(Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison,  
Marion, Newton, Searcy, Washington Counties)

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Fayetteville**

2346 W. Sixth St.  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
479-521-5730

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Harrison\***

818 Hwy. 62-65-412 North  
NWAEDD Plaza  
Harrison, AR 72601  
870-741-8236

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Mountain Home**

Village Mall, Suite 70  
Mountain Home, AR 72653  
870-425-2386

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Rogers**

1266 S. Eighth St.  
Rogers, AR 72757  
479-636-4755





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**Southeast Arkansas Workforce Investment Area**  
(Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland,  
Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, Lincoln Counties)

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Crossett**

1326 Hwy. 52 West  
Crossett, AR 71635  
870-304-2312

**Arkansas Workforce Center at DeWitt**

1210 Rice Belt  
DeWitt, AR 72042  
870-946-3008

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Dumas**

435 Hwy. 65 South  
Dumas, AR 71639  
870-382-4547

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Lake Village**

308 Main St.  
Lake Village, AR 71653  
870-265-4800

**Arkansas Workforce Center at McGehee**

1609 Ash St.  
McGehee, AR 71654  
870-222-6001, 870-222-6003

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Monticello**

809 Hwy. 278 East  
Monticello, AR 71655  
870-367-9900

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Pine Bluff\***

Regency Square  
3135 W. 28th St.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71603  
870-575-9797

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Rison**

212 Main St.  
Rison, AR 71665  
870-325-7575



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**Arkansas Workforce Center at Sheridan**

12 Opportunity Drive, Suite B  
Sheridan, AR 72150  
870-917-2115

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Star City**

610 S. Lincoln St.  
Star City, AR 71667  
870-628-1443

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Stuttgart**

2007 S. Main St.  
Stuttgart, AR 72160  
870-673-2802

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Warren**

1105 E. Church St.  
Warren, AR 71671  
870-226-7000

**Arkansas Workforce Center at White Hall**

7400 Dollarway Road, Suite H  
White Hall, AR 71612  
870-267-1931

**University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff**

2003 N. University, Suite 2  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-534-7700

**Southwest Arkansas Workforce Investment Area**  
(Calhoun, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River,  
Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Sevier, Union Counties)

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Ashdown**

1461 N. Constitution Ave.  
Ashdown, AR 71822  
870-898-4733

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Camden\***

232 Adams Northwest  
Camden, AR 71701  
870-836-5244



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**Arkansas Workforce Center at De Queen**

183 Hwy. 399  
De Queen, AR 71832  
870-584-4471, Ext. 337

**Arkansas Workforce Center at El Dorado\***

523 E. Sixth St.  
El Dorado, AR 71730  
870-862-6456

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Fordyce**

192 Broadway  
Fordyce, AR 71742  
870-352-3365

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Hampton**

County Courthouse Admin. Bldg.  
First & Hunt St.  
Hampton, AR 71744  
870-798-3223

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Hope\***

700 S. Elm  
Hope, AR 71801  
870-777-3421

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Lewisville**

110 E. Fourth St.  
County Annex Building  
Lewisville, AR 71845  
870-921-5678

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Magnolia**

214 S. Washington  
Magnolia, AR 71753  
870-234-9097

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Nashville**

415 N. Fourth St.  
Nashville, AR 71852  
870-845-2454



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**Arkansas Workforce Center at Prescott**

Dept. of Human Services Office  
355 W. First St.  
Prescott, AR 71857  
870-887-6626

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Texarkana**

1118 Wood St.  
Texarkana, TX 75501  
903-794-4163, Ext. 151

**West Central Arkansas Workforce Investment Area**  
(Clark, Conway, Garland, Hot Spring, Johnson,  
Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Pope, Yell Counties)

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Arkadelphia**

502 S. Sixth St.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
870-246-3772

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Clarksville**

33 Sherwood Plaza  
Clarksville, AR 72830  
479-754-5695

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Hot Springs\***

3955 Central Ave., Suite 7  
Hot Springs, AR 71913  
501-525-1631

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Malvern\***

1735 E. Sullenberger  
Malvern, AR 72104  
501-332-5002

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Morrilton**

1515 E. North Business 9  
Morrilton, AR 72210  
501-354-9793

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Mt. Ida**

506 Hwy. 270 East  
Mt. Ida, AR 71957  
870-867-3011



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**Arkansas Workforce Center at Murfreesboro**

331 N. 13th St.  
Murfreesboro, AR 71958  
870-285-2591

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Perryville**

213 Houston Ave.  
Perryville, AR 72126  
501-354-9793

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Russellville\***

104 S. Rochester  
Russellville, AR 72801  
479-880-1344

**Western Arkansas Workforce Investment Area**  
**(Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, Sebastian Counties)**

**Arkansas Workforce Center at Fort Smith\***

616 Garrison Ave, Room 101  
Fort Smith, AR 72902  
479-783-0231

# Section V:

## Rehabilitation Services





## Arkansas Rehabilitation Services

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS), a state agency, provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities in obtaining and keeping meaningful jobs in today's workforce. ARS helps Arkansas residents who are at least 16 and who have physical, mental and/or sensory disabilities lead productive and independent lives.

ARS operates the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center and 19 offices around the state.

### Services include the following:

- Counseling and evaluation to ensure a client's strengths are identified and maximized
- Physical restoration and medical services to prepare clients for employment
- Academic and vocational training through the higher education system, community colleges, technical schools, classes at the Hot Springs Rehab Center ACTI program or other training services. Qualified clients can earn their GED if necessary through the program.
- Equipment purchases to ensure clients are adequately prepared to enter the workforce
- Tools for individuals with significant disabilities to help make independent living possible

For more information, contact the field office that serves your area or call, toll-free, 800-330-0632 to the central office in Little Rock. You also can visit the ARS Web site at [www.arsinfo.org](http://www.arsinfo.org)

### ARS Offices

#### Boone County

303 N. Main, Suite 303  
Harrison, AR 72601  
870-741-7153  
TDD: 870-741-8194

#### Crittenden County

210 Shopping Way, Suite D  
West Memphis, AR 72303  
870-735-4725  
TDD: 870-735-7399

#### Craighead County

2920 McClellan Drive  
Jonesboro, AR 72402  
870-972-0025  
TDD: 870-972-1204

#### Drew County

989 Hwy. 425 North  
Monticello, AR 71657  
870-367-9669  
TDD: 870-367-9719



Skipping her last two years of high school to marry and start a family, Althea O'Haver has come full circle.

After being out of school eight years, Althea earned her Arkansas high school diploma through the GED program so she could make a better living for herself and her two daughters. Through her job as a nurse's aide, she received help from Arkansas Rehabilitation Services. She continued her education, graduating magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in speech communication and theater, a master's degree in special education and a certification in adult education.



Having auditory dyslexia herself, Althea teaches special education and is a teacher mentor at Marshall High School – the same school she attended years ago.

#### **Faulkner County**

1150 N. Museum Road  
Conway, AR 72032  
501-730-9725  
TDD: 501-730-9725

#### **Garland County**

105 Reserve  
Hot Springs, AR 71901  
501-623-4479  
TDD: 501-623-9681

#### **Independence County**

1670 White Drive  
Batesville, AR 72501  
870-793-4153  
TDD: 870-793-4224

#### **Jefferson County**

2703 W. 28th  
Pine Bluff, AR 71613  
870-534-2404  
TDD: 870-534-2993

#### **Logan County**

1812 E. Main  
Booneville, AR 72927  
479-675-3835

#### **Lonoke County**

102 Park  
Lonoke, AR 72086  
501-676-4490  
TDD: 501-676-4491

#### **Miller County**

2807 E. Broad  
Texarkana, AR 71854  
870-773-2807  
TDD: 870-773-3074

#### **Phillips County**

507 Cherry St.  
Helena, AR 72342  
870-338-2753  
TDD: 870-338-2774





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### **Pope County**

1010 N. Arkansas  
Russellville, AR 72801  
479-890-5751  
TDD: 479-890-5157

### **Pulaski County**

4601 W. Markham  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501-686-2800  
TDD: 501-686-9836

208 E. Kiehl Ave., Suite 13  
Sherwood, AR 72120  
501-833-1490  
TDD: 501-833-149

### **Saline County**

1226 Ferguson  
Benton, AR 72015  
501-317-1390  
TDD: 501-317-1392

### **Sebastian County**

1115 Waldron Road, Suite 207  
Fort Smith, AR 72903  
479-452-7131  
TDD: 479-452-6801

### **Union County**

708 W. Faulkner  
El Dorado, AR 71730  
870-862-5451  
TDD: 870-862-4002

### **Washington County**

4058 College, Suite 150  
Fayetteville, AR 72703  
479-582-1286  
TDD: 479-582-1261

**P**hillip McClain has cerebral palsy. While in high school, he had to undergo various surgeries and rehabilitation that prevented him from graduating.

**P**hillip did not let his physical disability stand in his way. At the age of 39, he earned his Arkansas high school diploma by taking the GED Test at Russellville Adult Education Center. With support from Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, Phillip enrolled at Arkansas Tech University and is working toward a degree in rehabilitative science.

**P**hillip's advice to others who have not completed high school is to earn a GED credential. He says he is an example of what is possible for everyone.

